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IN BUSINESS UPDATE FEATURE
SEE PAGES 20-21

Christine has a personal reason for supporting Diabetes UK's special walk

Christine with her daughter, Louise.

BRIDGEND mother of two, Christine Bradshaw, is taking a 'One Million Steps Challenge' – to raise funds for Diabetes UK.

Christine, who lives in Brackla, is taking part in the challenge to raise public awareness of diabetes, as well as to improve her health and fitness.

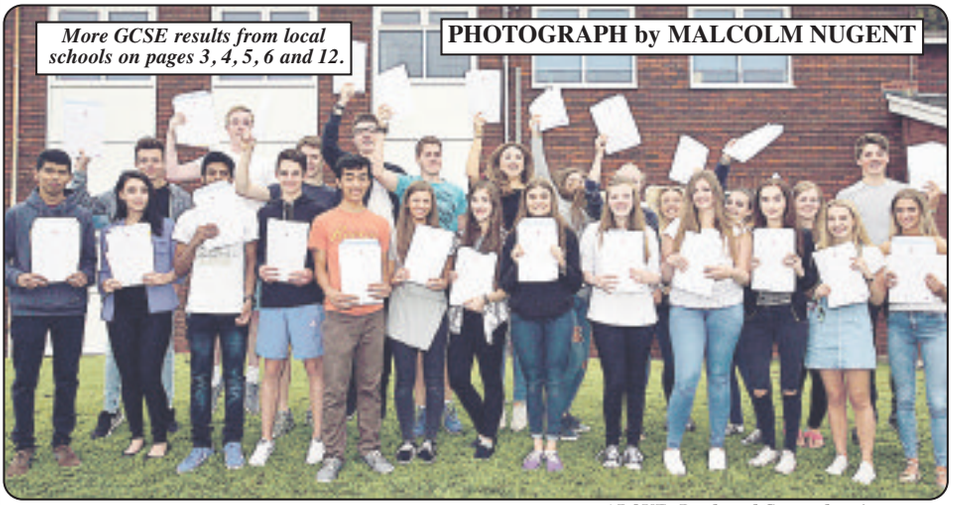
It is a cause close to her heart as her daughter Louise was diagnosed with Type-1 diabetes – a lifelong condition that has nothing to do with being overweight – at the age of nine in 1998.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 22)

COUNCIL HAILS 'EXCEPTIONAL PERFORMANCE' BY GCSE PUPILS

More GCSE results from local schools on pages 3, 4, 5, 6 and 12.

PHOTOGRAPH by MALCOLM NUGENT



ABOVE: Porthcawl Comprehensive were celebrating their GCSEs. (For a report and more photos, see page 5).

EDUCATION chiefs at BCBC said this week that pupils had enjoyed "exceptional success" in this year's GCSEs.

A council spokesman reported: "The initial school returns for all examination boards found that the number of GCSE students who have picked up at least five A* to C grades in both English (or Welsh First Language) and mathematics (the level 2 threshold) has increased to 59 per cent, which is a 4.2 per cent rise on last year's results.

"Across the county borough, early indications based on WJEC results only suggest that the overall percentage of pupils who gained A* to G grades is 98.8 per cent, which is up 0.6 per cent on last year.

"The county-wide percentage of students who collected grades at A* to C has risen 1.6 per cent to 65.2 per cent, while an impressive 18 per cent achieved either an A* or an A grade."

NOTE: Some statistics are based on WJEC GCSE results only and should, therefore, be treated with a degree of caution, as schools will have entered varying proportions of students for GCSEs with other examination boards.

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Teach a man (or woman) to fish...

Valley Gateway Day Centre. Cathy Spanswick (with medal) is a winner.

Pyle and Porthcawl Life Centre, Richard Williams with medal.

ON August 17, Bridgend and District Fishing for the Disabled and the Rotary Club of Bridgend took members of the Bridgend Resource Centre, Cwm Calon (Maesteg), Pyle and Porthcawl Life Centre and Valley Gateway Day Centre (Sarn) fishing at the Sevenoaks Fishery, in the Vale.

Although the sun was shining and the water crystal clear, the fish were biting and all 23 participants each caught two fish.

There were 46 trout caught and all participants went home with a smile on their face.

Each team winner was presented with a medal. Cathy Spanswick of Valley Gateway and Richard Williams of Pyle and Porthcawl each had the 'catch of the day' with bags of 2lb 1oz.

The Rotary Club of Bridgend thanks the various organisations in Bridgend and Pencoed for their support in making the event possible.

EDGAR BURT

IF AT FIRST, YOU DON'T SUCCEED...

Touchdown time for a bee!

Local photographer Susan Dobbs has spent "countless hours" taking thousands of pictures of bees in her garden, trying to capture the moment one comes into land!

She finally managed it, and for Sue, it really is a case of if at first you don't succeed, try, try again.

You can see more of Sue's photos on *www.susandobbsphotography.co.uk*

PACT meetings

MORFA WILDMILL PACT at the Community Life Centre, The Precinct, Wildmill on Thursday, September 1 at 2pm.

MORFA TOWN PACT at Penybont Primary School, Minerva Street on Monday, September 12 at 6.30pm.

PORTHCAWL EAST CENTRAL PACT at Porthcawl Fire Station, Porthcawl on Tuesday, September 13 at 6.30pm.

OLDCASTLE PACT in the library, Brynteg Comprehensive School on Wednesday, September 15 at 6.30pm.

FELINDRE, HENDRE, PENPRYSG (PENCOED) and COYCHURCH PACT at Pencoed Library, Pencoed at 10am on Monday, September 26.

BRACKLA PACT at Brackla Junior School, Brackla Way on Thursday, September 29 at 6.30pm.

Richard Williams, winner – and as pleased as Punch!

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Choir in Harmony for celebration concert at Maesteg

HARMONY will be celebrating its 10th anniversary this year with a concert at Maesteg Town Hall on October 8 at 7pm.

Tickets, £10 can be purchased from any chorister, or contact the Town Hall box office on 01656 815995 (option 2); or www.maestegtownhall.com.

Harmony began 18 years ago with a small group of friends who used to sing *a cappella*; in February 2006 it was formally formed under the direction of Wendy Murphy (MD and accompanist).

The choir has gone from strength to strength and has a wide repertoire, ranging from traditional to pop to show songs and more.

Harmony has also produced two albums – *A New Beginning* then *Sing For You*.

Choristers have also composed songs for the choir, which were well received.

The 10th annual concert will be a celebration of music and fun with special guests Richard and Adam, finalists from *Britain's Got Talent*; two brothers from Holywell, north Wales who are Welsh classical singers.

Their debut album, *The Impossible Dream*, topped the UK album charts.

Reign forecast for Bridgend

SATURDAY, September 17 will be a right royal day for Bridgend town when King Henry VIII and his sixth wife, Katherine Parr, visit the area for a full day of fun and festivity for all local families.

The reason for the 'royal' visit is to grant Bridgend a Royal Charter, and give local traders the right to hold a market and trade, in accordance with the laws of the land.

Between 10am and 5pm, Bridgend town will be transported back 500 years to the days when over 20 trades were available in the town centre and people came from miles around to buy and sell their wares. No chain shops; no multi-nationals; no internet.

It will be an experience never before available – and will be long in coming again. Don't miss it. Mark it in your almanac. Saturday, September 17 from 10am to 5pm.

The welcome to the town will be both warm and royal.

HIGH TIDE TIMES

(UNTIL SEPTEMBER 8)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time AM	Ht M	Time PM	Ht M
01 Thur	07.17	9.6	19.37	9.9
02 Fri	07.55	9.7	20.12	9.9
03 Sat	08.29	9.9	20.46	9.9
04 Sun	09.02	9.8	21.15	9.7
05 Mon	09.34	9.6	21.48	9.4
06 Tues	10.04	9.3	22.16	9.2
07 Wed	10.33	8.9	22.49	8.8
08 Thur	11.07	8.5	23.23	8.2

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should check with a tide table specific to their location.

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BRYNTEG STAFF VERY PLEASED WITH PUPILS' GCSE RESULTS

David Ince, year-11 'progress leader' at Brynteg with some of the pupils.
Back row (left to right): Lewys Biggs, Kevin Jarvisto, Thomas Zielinski, Laynie Thornton, Jessica Newman, Michelle Kwan, Leah Duckett, Dafydd Thomas, Erin Kuhlmann.
Front row: Madeleine Brown, Victoria Bisatt, Elin Obaid, Nia Obaid, Lowri Morrison, Emily Jones.

AT Brynteg Comprehensive School, headteacher David Jenkins told The GEM that staff were very pleased with this year's GCSE results.

He said: "They confirm the trend of improvement within the school. We congratulate all of our students and staff on the results. Their hard work has once again been rewarded.

"Twenty-one students achieved nine or more A*/A grades. We look forward to welcoming back the vast majority of this year's year-11 cohort next year into our exceptionally successful sixth form to further build on their successful GCSE performance".

All top performers (9 or more A*/A grades) include: Mamoon Ahmed; Lewys Biggs; Victoria Bisatt; Madeleine Brown; Jessica Craddock; Joseph Davis; Leah Duckett; Harry Hopkins; Kevin Jarvisto; Emily Jones; Erin Kuhlmann; Michelle Kwan; Adam Leonard; Mia Marenghi; Lowri Morrison; Jessica Newman; Elin Obaid; Nia Obaid; Oliver Patterson; Dafydd Thomas; Laynie Thornton; Thomas Zielinski

'Have your say' on town centre traffic proposals

PUBLIC consultation is underway over proposals that could see traffic return to some of Bridgend town centre's pedestrianised streets.

Following requests from local businesses and other organisations, Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) is asking the public for their views on a proposal to re-introduce traffic to Queen Street, Dunraven Place and Market Street.

As part of the proposal, a 20mph speed zone and two pedestrian crossings would be introduced alongside approximately 18 parking/loading bays, while street bollards and other street furniture would be installed to safely separate pedestrians and vehicles. Adare Street and Caroline Street would remain pedestrianised.

Local residents are being invited to share their views on the proposal by visiting *www.bridgend.gov.uk/consultation* and completing an online survey before the deadline of October 24.

Coun Charles Smith, cabinet member for regeneration and economic development, said: "Pedestrianisation was originally introduced to address a number of problems in Bridgend town centre and to help create a safer, more pleasant shopping environment.

"But between issues such as the rise of the internet and the ongoing recession, shopping patterns are a lot different now and we are keen to do whatever we can to encourage as many people as possible to shop in Bridgend town centre.

"We want to consult with local people and find out their views, as the proposal has both pros and cons that need careful consideration.

"For example, reintroducing traffic would make it easier and quicker for some disabled people and those with mobility problems to get to the shops they want to visit, while many town centre traders, property agents and developers believe that it would increase footfall.

"On the negative side, there could be an increased risk to pedestrian safety. Since these roads were pedestrianised, reported traffic collisions have fallen from 13 between the years 2000 and 2004 to three between 2004 and 2014.

"It would also cost the council upwards of £500,000 to safely allow vehicle access into these streets due to the works required, while there is also the issue of cars creating more air pollution in the town centre. Added to this, there would be disruption to trade while the works were taking place.

"These changes can therefore only be justified if there is sufficient support from both town centre businesses, and the wider community of Bridgend who use the town centre. Bridgend Town Council have already pledged their support and a financial contribution to the scheme, but I would urge everyone, businesses, shoppers, workers, residents, young and old, to have their say and consider all of these factors."

If the proposal is introduced, then it will also be possible to include 'pedestrian only' times so that the roads are not accessible during certain hours. This approach has been followed in other towns such as Neath, Caldicot and Tenby.

Residents can also have their say on the town centre access proposals by taking part in a special social media Q&A session. The council's corporate director for communities, Mark Shephard, will be logging on to the local authority's social media accounts from 6pm to 7:30pm on Thursday, September 1 to answer questions.

To submit a question, visit the council's social media accounts at *www.twitter.com/bridgendcbc* or *www.facebook.com/bridgendcbc* at 6pm on Thursday, September 1. Instructions for how to get involved on Facebook will be posted on the council's account ahead of the Q&A, while Twitter users can get their questions in early by using the hashtag *#BCBCaccess*.

'Record-breaking' GCSEs at Coleg Y Dderwen

RIGHT: Megan Brown, Isobelle Webb, Asha Cornelius, Elinor Griffiths.

Verity Davies.

Niamh Gwilym.

Morgan Jones.

AT Coleg Y Dderwen (previously Ogmore or Ynysawdre Comprehensives) executive headteacher Nick Brain said that he was very pleased with this year's GCSE results.

He said: "We are pleased to report a record breaking year of GCSE results at Coleg Cymunedol Y Dderwen, with 93 per cent of students achieving at least five GCSE grades at A* to C (34 per cent higher than in 2015).

"Also, 56 per cent of students achieved the 'gold standard' of at least five GCSE grades at A* to C, including English and maths (44 per cent in 2015)."

The top performers at A*-B were: Chloe Thomas 12A* 2A 1B; Elis Evans 5A* 8A 1B; Verity Davies 6A* 5A 5B; Megan Brown 4A* 7A 3B; Asha Cornelius 2A* 6A 5B; Ellie Edwards 3A* 4A 5B; Chloe Olds 5A* 5A 2B; Elinor Griffiths 4A* 4A 4B; Kane Hill 6A* 3A 2B; Isobel Webb 3A* 4A 4B; Chloe Arnold 3A* 3A 3B; Niamh Gwilym 2A* 4A 4B; Shania Curtis 1A* 5A 2B; Morgan Jones 1A* 5A 6B; Megan Ball 2A* 4A 3B; Jayson Walsh 3A* 3A 7B; Shauna Davies 4A* 2A 4B.

Mr Brain continued: "The following year-11 students also studied AS qualifications in English whilst completing their GCSE courses and achieved fantastic results:

"Chloe Thomas achieved an A grade, Morgan Jones and Katie McCann achieved B grades, whilst Shania Curtis, Ellie Edwards, Elinor Griffiths, Niamh Gwilym, Jack Howells, Jayson Walsh all achieved C grades.

"These results are the just reward for all the hard work, commitment and dedication of students, staff, governors and parents alike.

"The whole school community have worked tirelessly to raise standards at Coleg Cymunedol Y Dderwen this year and we are incredibly proud of the achievements of our students.

"To put the results in perspective, they are the best results achieved in the short history of Coleg Cymunedol Y Dderwen."

UKIP celebrate

TOM TURNER, a long-standing UKIP member has been returned unopposed in the Cefn Glas 1 ward by-election to sit on Laleston community council. He is currently membership secretary of the Bridgend and District branch of UKIP.

Last year, Hazel Kendall became a Laleston community councillor.

AM thanks EU workers

Huw Irranca-Davies AM and Welsh Government colleagues supporting 'Thank You' campaign.

OGMORE AM Huw Irranca-Davies has joined Assembly colleagues to thank immigrants working in the Welsh NHS.

"The Brexit vote has caused worry and uncertainty for many migrant staff. It is essential for the future and safe-guarding of our NHS that reassurance is provided to our friends from overseas who deliver a much-valued service to our NHS.

"It is also important that we show our gratitude and appreciation to all staff members throughout the NHS who we so heavily rely on for their life-saving work," the AM said.

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Delight at Pencoed School's GCSE results

AT Pencoed Comprehensive School, there was delight at this year's GCSE results.

A school spokesperson said: "An incredible 72 per cent of mainstream year-11 pupils achieved the gold standard five or more passes A* to C including mathematics and English.

"The whole year-11 cohort, including pupils from our 'resource base' for pupils with moderate learning difficulties (MLD), did superbly well, with 66 per cent achieving five passes at A* to C including English and mathematics.

"This is an outstanding achievement!

"There was a real buzz of excitement when pupils collected their results from the school, with many pupils exceeding their target grades.

"At Pencoed Comprehensive School we pride ourselves on being an inclusive school, supporting pupils of all levels of ability.

"As one of three schools in Bridgend with a 'resource base' we are delighted to report fantastic results for our first year-11 MLD cohort. 2016 has also seen the best ever results for more able pupils, with many students achieving 5A* or A at GCSE.

"There have been superb individual achievements, including 19 students who achieved at least 5 A*/ A grades at GCSE:

"Gabrielle David, Jenna Dyckhoff, Mack Gibbons, Rhydian Gore, Jasmine Green, Freya Harding, Callum Johnson, Ifan Jones, Rhys Jordan, Hannah Martin, Joseph Owen, Carys Phillips, Shannon Price, Andrew Raine, Elliot Rees, Olivia Shellard, Caitlin Sweet, Cai Wall, Adam Woolaway.

"Congratulations to all of our pupils, parents, staff and governors on an excellent set of results this year."

500TH TEEN JOINS LOCAL MILITARY TRAINING COLLEGE

Bevan Morgan in training, with comrades.

A SPECIALIST training college in Bridgend which helps 16 – 18-year-olds get fit and ready for employment has just celebrated a landmark '500 learners' since its launch.

The free-to-attend Bridgend Military Preparation College, which will next month mark its fifth anniversary in the town, helps young people to build their physical fitness, life skills and self-confidence. New recruit Bevan Morgan, 16, from Bridgend, has now become its 500th learner.

Bevan joined the Military Preparation College after completing his GCSE exams earlier this summer. He decided to sign up for the college after learning about its alternative 'active learning' approach from another student.

Determined to enter HM Armed Forces, he is already in the process of applying to join the Royal Engineers. With the help of the college's instructors, he hopes to pass the Army's rigorous selection process and begin his military training next year.

He said: "I knew when I left school that the average college wasn't really for me. I didn't want to study A-Levels or go to university so when I heard about the Military Preparation College, it immediately appealed.

"The instructors are really motivating me to push myself and achieve my best, and are helping me to take a big step towards achieving my goal."

The Bridgend Military Preparation College helps prepare young people for careers in the Armed Forces, civilian workplaces or further education. Since its launch in 2011, 90 per cent of learners have progressed into full-time employment or further education after leaving the Bridgend college.

Steve Tallis has been the lead instructor at the college since it first opened its doors. Late of the Welsh Guards and a former fitness instructor, Mr Tallis was awarded the Bridgend Mayor's Citizenship Individual Award earlier this year for his work at the college.

He said: "We are absolutely delighted to have welcomed Bevan as our 500th learner. To reach this landmark in just five years is significant; it shows that we are meeting a great demand in the area for alternative education options for teens."

To find out more about the Military Preparation College, visit www.mpct.co.uk or call 08442 438438.

Garth Primary pupils send a message to First Minister

Huw Irranca-Davies handing over messages from pupils of Garth Primary School to First Minister Carwyn Jones AM.

PUPILS of Garth Primary School have sent a message to Ogmore AM Huw Irranca-Davies and to First Minister Carwyn Jones about the importance of education for everyone around the world.

They made colourful paper bags, carrying explanations of what they would miss most if they had to leave their schooling behind.

This is part of the annual 'Send My Friend To School' campaign, which Mr Irranca-Davies has supported for many years. With the help of local schools, he has previously presented the campaign to the Prime Minister and the Foreign Secretary, but this is the first time that the leader of the Welsh Government has received the messages.

This year, the messagers hope to raise awareness with world leaders of the need to deliver education for the 37 million children who are out of school in countries affected by war, natural disasters and other emergencies.

Mr Irranca-Davies recently presented the paper rucksacks to Carwyn Jones AM and said: "Many thanks to the children and staff of Garth Primary for their time and effort in presenting such detailed and hard-hitting messages.

"Worldwide, more children than ever before are finding themselves displaced from their homes. Every child deserves an education as a basic human right and we all have a duty to try ensure that this is available to all children regardless of where they live."

WHO WANTS TO BUILD WHAT AND WHERE?

Mr A Phillips – **29 Garn Road, Maesteg** – Two storey extension, detached garage and porch.

Leta Engineering Ltd – **Land at Carreg Llwyd, Broadlands, Bridgend** – Site access and two detached dwellings.

Mulligan Community CIC – **The Engine House, Parc Tondu, Tondu** – Change of use of Engine House from B1 to B1 and D1 usage (mixed use); no alterations to be made internally or externally.

Mr Sayban Al-Ibrahim – **9 Talbot Street, Maesteg** – Amendments to shopfront, installation of external ramp to rear yard for deliveries, installation of cold room compressor unit, ventilation and extraction equipment. One internally illuminated projecting sign.

Mr Stephen Peachey – **15 Clos Cornelius, South Cornelly** – Two storey extension to gable end for extended kitchen and garage on ground floor and master bedroom above (resub of P/16/352/FUL).

Mr Clive Jones – **26 Greenacres, South Cornelly** – Double storey side extension and single storey rear extension.

Halo Leisure – **Garw Valley Life Centre, Garw Valley** – Sign to direct visitors to the Life Centre.

Bridgend Town Council – **Bridgend Railway Station, Bridgend** – Interpretive panels outside railway station.

Mr Gwyn Singleton – **59 Newton Nottage Road, Porthcawl** – Approval of details for conditions 1, 2, 3, 4, 7 and 8 of P/16/172/FUL.

Mr and Mrs Simmonds – **The Meadows, Bryn Road Coychurch** – Demolish existing bungalow and garage and construct new dwelling.

Mr David Roberts – **Fairfield, 28 Hillcrest, Penyfai** – Demolition of existing rear two storey extension and replacement with new two storey rear extension.

South Wales Wood Recycling Ltd – **Former Bryncethin Nurseries and South Wales Wood Recycling** – Relax condition 12 of P/14/711/FUL to extend the time period in which to submit the Noise Management Plan.

Mr M Phillips – **2 Fairview, Coychurch Road, Pencoed** – Single storey extension to provide dining area and canopy.

Adam Watkin – **6 Bryn Awelon, Bryntirion** – Rear ground floor extension for disabled person.

Mrs Janice Taylor – **26 Heol Nant, North Cornelly** – Roof pitch adjustment and dormer extension and roof terrace (amended description).

Mr A Edwards – **7 Candleston Close, Porthcawl** – Single storey rear extension, front porch and garage conversion.

Paul Howells – **12 Tythegston Close, Nottage** – Non material amendment to P/16/151/FUL; finish extensions with smooth render and paint to match existing render.

Natural Resources Wales Marine Licensing Team – **Outfall at Porthcawl seafront** – Repairs to WWTW outfall at Porthcawl seafront.

Adam Reeves – **13 Heol Cefn Ydfa, Coytrahen** – Non material amendment to P/16/95/FUL; move location of one window and one additional window.

Mrs Elaine Brown – **41 Heol Las, Pencoed** – Single storey extension to side.

Mr Behzad Ahmadi – **Lluest House, Pantygog, Pantycymmer** – Proposed replacement of roof trusses and roof coverings and proposed provision of security shutters.

Mr Gareth Jones – **3 Heol Glyndwr, Brackla** – Demolish existing rear conservatory and replace with orangery with bifolding doors and skylight.

Bridgend County Borough Council – **Land rear 297-311 Erw Hir, Brackla** – Approval of details for condition 3 of P/16/385/BCB.

Mrs Glenys Raybould – **Flat D, St John's Court, 1 Beach Road, Porthcawl** – Erection of a conservatory.

Jordan Morgan – **19 Quarella Road, Bridgend** – Single storey flat roof extension to provide additional living, dining and kitchen accommodation with associated internal alterations.

John Griffiths – **128 Nolton Street, Bridgend** – Single storey front extension.

Graham Harding – **Bryn Haul, Derwen, Bridgend** – Erection of single storey conservatory (side) and extend covered porch (front).

Mr Kyle Black – **39 Georgian Way, Brackla** – Two storey side extension and additional single storey extension to front and rear.

Porthcawl pupils celebrate 'excellent' GCSE results

Catelin Toy, Lilli Furness and Jenna Blake.

DIDN'T WE ALL DO WELL?

PHOTOGRAPHS by MALCOLM NUGENT.

The students, their families and staff at the Porthcawl Comprehensive School are all celebrating an excellent set of GCSE results.

Nia Bowen and Dania John.

Emily Stradling and Natasha Stradling.

Headteacher Andrew Slade said: "This year saw a large cohort of 212 students and the high quality of results is across the ability range, in total 3,797 papers were sat.

"There has been a significant improvement in the Welsh Government key indicators. The performance in the core subjects was very strong.

"The Level 2 (grades A* - C) for English was 79.5%, Maths 79.5% and Science a remarkable 98.6%. Based upon these returns the percentage of pupils gaining 5 or more A* - C (including English and Mathematics) improved to 70.5%.

"The core subject indicator (English, Mathematics and Science) saw improvement to 71%. An outstanding feature was the percentage of A*/A grades awarded with 32.9% of grades being awarded at this top level.

"The performance of English, aths and Science was the best for the last 5 years. The Welsh Government started recording results in the current format in 2012, thus the English, Maths and Science are the best for Porthcawl since records began!

"On a broader scale, the number of pupils who gained 5 or more A* to C was over 80%. This is especially strong given the traditional GCSE based curriculum the school offers.

"The school is delighted that the learners across the ability range have all done so well. For the sixth year, no student has left our school without a recognised qualification."

A total of 40 students gained 8 or more GCSE grades at A*/A, and 9 of these gained an impressive 8 or more A* grades. Special mention must go to

Mitchell Davies 9A*, 2A

Harry Evans 9A*, 1A, 1A* (Short Course RS), 1B (Short Course Welsh) and a Distinction (Add Maths)

Thara Hopkin 10A*, 1A, 1D (Short Course Welsh)

Laurence Hunt 10A*, 1A, 1B (Short Course Welsh) and a Distinction (Add Maths)

Olivia Lewis 8A*, 3A, A* (Short Course ICT), Level 2 Essential Skills and a Distinction (Add Maths)

Layla Miller 8A*, 2A, 1B

Hannah Parry 8A*, 3A, 1A* (Short Course RS), 1C (Short Course Welsh), Food Safety and a Merit (Add Maths)

Emily Stradling 13 A*, 1B (Short Course Welsh) and a Distinction (Add Maths)

Anushruti Yadav 9A*, 1A, 1B, 1B (Short Course Welsh), 1A* (Short Course ICT), Level 2 Essential Skills and a Distinction (Add Maths)

Mr Slade continued; "The whole of our school is delighted with these fantastic results. Governors, staff and students worked incredibly hard together and this success is justly deserved.

"The school is at its strongest when all those involved with the school collaborate so well, with a common aim, each student reaching their potential.

"This success will result in our learners being able to follow their chosen pathways, with the majority returning to Porthcawl to study in the sixth form. We wish all of year-11 the very best."

Year 11

Shivprakash Arun 7A*, 4A, 1A* (Short Course RS), 1C (Short Course Welsh) and a Distinction (Add Maths)

Jenna Blake 6A*, 4A, 1D (Short Course Welsh), Pass (Add Maths)

Mai Blossom Brown 1A*, 7A, 2B, 1C, 1A (Short Course RS)

Jack Davies 5A*, 5A, 1B (Short Course Welsh) and a Merit (Add Maths)

Sam Edwards 4A*, 5A, 1B, 1B (Short Course RS), 1C (Short Course Welsh)

Jacob Evans 6A*, 2A, 2B, 1B (Short Course Welsh) and a Merit (Add Maths)

Robert Fenton 2A*, 8A, 1A (Short Course RS), 1A (Short Course ICT), 1B (Short Course Welsh), Level 2 Essential Skills and a Merit (Add Maths)

Bronty Freeman 3A*, 8A, 1A* (Short Course RS), 1B (Short Course Welsh), 1A (Short Course ICT), Food Safety, evel 2 Essential Skills

Lilli Furness 5A*, 6A, 1B

Chloe Green 7A*, 2A, 1B, 1B (Short Course Welsh)

Nia Hancock 1A*, 7A, 1B, 1C, 1A (Short Course RS), 1A (Short Course ICT), Level 2 Essential Skills

Hannah Cord-Jenkins 1A*, 7A, 1B, 1C, 1A* (Short Course RS), 1A (Short Course ICT), 1B (Short Course Welsh), Level 2 Essential Skills

Dania John 3A*, 5A, 2B, 1C, 1B (Short Course Welsh)

Katie John 6A*, 4A, 1B (Short Course Welsh) and a Distinction (Add Maths)

Lois John 2A*, 8A, 1C, 1A (Short Course Welsh), Food Safety

Claudia Keepins 3A*, 6A, 3B, 1A* (Short Course RS)

Rhianwen Keirl 1A*, 7A, 3B

Bella Lloyd 2A*, 7A, 2B, 1D (Short Course Welsh)

Patrick Mathew 6A*, 2A, 2B, 1A* (Short Course RS), 1A* (Short Course ICT), 1B (Short Course Welsh) Level 2 Essential Skills

Tara Phillips 7A*, 3A, 1B, 1A* (Short Course RS), 1A (Short Course Welsh) and a Distinction (Add Maths)

Lilli Price-Bevan 6A*, 5A, 1A* (Short Course RS), 1C (Short Course Welsh) and a Merit (Add Maths)

Mit Russell 4A*, 5A, 1B, 1C (Short Course RS), 1C (Short Course Welsh)

Jodie Sinclair 4A*, 4A, 1B, 1C, 1B (Short Course Welsh)

Shannon Sumner 4A*, 4A, 4B, 1A (Short Course RS)

Sachin Sunil 2A*, 6A, 3B, 1D (Short Course Welsh), Food Safety

Caitlin Toy 6A*, 3A, 1C, 1A* (Short Course RS), 1C (Short Course Welsh)

George Walters 2A*, 6A, 3B, 1B (Short Course RS), 1C (Short Course Welsh)

Harry Watkins 5A*,4A, 1B, 1C, 1C (Short Course RS), 1C (Short Course Welsh) and a Distinction (Add Maths)

Alice Webber 6A*, 2A, 2B, 1A* (Short Course RS), 1C (Short Course Welsh)

Laura Webster 5A*, 6A

Hannah Worth 4A*, 6A, 1C, 1D (Short course Welsh), Food Safety and a Distinction (Add Maths)

Charlotte Clarke and her mum.

Fin Cronan.

Chloe Green.

Chloe Dowling.

Ben Roaon.

Record year for GCSEs at Bryntirion Comp

AT Bryntirion Comprehensive, they hit the 100 per cent mark, as all the pupils gained five or more A* to C grades.

Headteacher Nick Brain said: "This was another record year for GCSE results. An incredible 100 per cent of pupils have achieved five or more A-C grades, with 76 per cent achieving five A*-C including English and maths, and 38 students gaining at least 5 or more A*/A grades.*

"These are outstanding results and a just reward for all the hard work of pupils and staff alike.

"Congratulations to the following pupils for achieving at least 10 A/A grades: Ffion Llewellyn 11A* 2A; Sarah Love 11A* 2 A; Layla Noor-Mohamed 11A* 2 A; Lauren Brown 9.5A* 2.5A; Phoebe Bowen 9A* 3A; Gareth Harfoot 8.5A* 4.5A; Dafydd Rees 8A* 5A; Daniel Clack 7A* 4A; Erin Wright 6.5A* 5.5A; Maddison Page 3A* 8.5A; Charlotte Westrop 10A* 1A; Emily Sims 4A* 7A; Thomas Willis 4A* 6.5A; Louisa Jones 3A* 7.5A; Anna Davies 4.5A* 8.5A; Kirsty Richards 4A* 9A.*

"Furthermore, the following students achieved at least 8 A/A grades: Gareth Graham 6A* 3.5A; William Hunt 5A* 4.5A; Tom Pugh 2A* 7.5A; Hannah Martensson 1.5A* 7.5A; Shaun O'Brien 6A* 2.5A; Thomas Abraham 3A* 5.5A; Zoe Feeley 5A* 3A; Natalie Kirk 3A* 5A; Ffion Morgan 2A* 6A.*

"It is wonderful to report such outstanding results once again and we are incredibly proud to celebrate the fantastic achievements of all of our year-11 students.

"These results reflect the hard work and commitment of students, parents and teachers to achieve results of the highest standard. Congratulations to all and good luck for the future."

Ken heads for 'roof of the world' in bid to provide dental care in Tanzania

REPORT by TIM CHAPMAN

A Barry dentist is heading for the roof of the world in a bid to provide dental care for people in East Africa.

Ken Chow told The GEM: "I'm doing a 14 day trek to Everest base camp – 11 days climbing up to it and three days coming back.

"I hope to raise funds for Bridge2Aid, a charity that helps train health workers in Tanzania to do extractions and emergency dental work."

Ken, who has been a dentist for 11 years, points out that if trained health workers weren't on the ground delivering essential care, patients would have to "grin and bear it or visit the local witch doctor".

And unqualified extractions could lead to a broken jaw, and in those circumstances a person in a rural area of Tanzania could face a 10- or 15-day trek to a town to get specialist help.

Ken, a popular figure at Barry RFC and manager of the club's second team, said: "During this time they wouldn't be able to provide for their family."

He explained: "British dentists go on four trips every year and give one to one tuition on the ins and outs of extraction and aftercare."

Health workers are also trained in when not to extract and instead advise a patient to seek hospital treatment.

Ken's Everest fundraising adventure in Nepal begins in early November.

"I'm flying in to Kathmandu on Friday, November 6, and the next day I take an internal flight to Lukla. From there it is 11 days to Everest base camp and then three days down."

Barry dentist Ken Chow is heading for Everest base camp this November in a bid to fund raise for vital dental care in Africa.

It's a lot more comfortable on the way down as the air becomes more plentiful.

"I'll be travelling from village to village, seeing magnificent scenery, meeting local people and experiencing a new culture."

Ken trekked up Kilimanjaro two years ago, and was inspired to attempt Everest base camp when he discovered they were roughly the same height above sea level.

A spokesman for the charity Ken is supporting said: *"Since 2004 Bridge2Aid has provided training which has given access to safe emergency dental care for over four million people in Tanzania. We have done this through sending volunteers from the UK dental community to train rural health workers. We are saving lives and freeing millions more from the prospect of misery and pain."*

To sponsor Ken, please go to: *www.justgiving.com/fundraising/kenchow2016.*

Go to the **The GEM** for the latest stories and breaking news...
www.barry-today.co.uk
www.cowbridge-today.co.uk
www.llantwit-major-today.co.uk
www.bridgend-today.co.uk
www.porthcawl-today.co.uk

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Headteacher congratulates Maesteg pupils on GCSEs

Maesteg School pupils celebrated another successful set of GCSE results with an overall A*to C pass rate of 87 per cent and 99 per cent of pupils gaining at least one A* to C grade.

Headteacher Helen Jones said that 66 per cent of year-11 pupils gained a C grade or higher in English and 21 achieved 3 A*/A grades.

There was also a significant proportion of students achieving A* and A grades across the school, with impressive results in history, maths, English literature, chemistry, biology and art.

She said: "These results are the culmination of some incredibly hard work from both year-11 students and teaching staff and the support given to them by our parents.

"We are very proud of their achievements and hope to welcome them back into our sixth form.

"As always there were some outstanding individual performances. Particular mention should go to:

Megan Hill: 1 x A*, 9 x A, 1 x B

Phoebe Jenkins: 7 x A*, 4x A

Sam Meek: 3 x A*, 3 x A, 5 x B

Caitlin Davies: 5 x A, 5 x B, 1 x C

Sophie Williams: 4 x A, 7 x B

Ffion Griffiths: 4 x A, 6 x B, 1 x C

Evan John: 3 x A, 8 x B

Sally Cadogan: 1 x A*, 7 x A, 3 x B

Carys Davies: 2 x A, 8 x B, 1x C

Alex Campfield: 2 x A*, 3 x A, 3 x B, 2 x C

Tom Gwynne: 6 x A, 3 x B, 1 x C

Georgia Brownhill-Davies: 4 x A, 2 x B, 5 x C

Megan Rees: 3 x A, 5 x B, 3 x C."

Helen Jones added: "There is much to celebrate and I would like to take this opportunity to say well done to all of our students."

ABOVE, AND RIGHT: FOR THESE PUPILS AT LEAST, THE GCSE RESULTS BROUGHT JOY, SMILES, AND HUGS.

Wick Young Farmers are go..!

WICK and District Young Farmers Club (YFC) is all set for the upcoming year.

The annual general meeting, which was well attended by members and supporters, saw Katie Evans take the role of chairman, with James Morgan becoming vice-chairman.

We are really looking forward to the year ahead, with Wick YFC going from strength-to-strength, and building on the previous year, which saw Wick celebrate its 80th birthday at the Vale Hotel and Golf Resort, Hensol; as well as managing to fight off some big clubs to finish fourth in the Glamorgan Young Farmers Rally Day, held at Pitcot Farm, St Brides Major.

We are always recruiting new members for the club between the ages of 10 – 26. If you are interested, and would like more information on upcoming events, including our new members' evening, contact yfcwick@gmail.com ***AE***

EWENNY CLUB MEMBERS PAY TRIBUTE TO STALWART CLIFF

THE Ewenny Air Rifle Club annual general meeting was held at its rifle range in the Sarn Club on August 22.

Fifteen members attended and the chairman, Basil George, thanked the Sarn Club management for its continued support throughout the year.

The chairman asked all present to stand for a moment in remembrance of the late Cliff Greenslade, who had been a member of the club for more than 50 years, and played a big part in running the club, holding the post of captain of the Eagles team for many years.

The Bridgend Air Rifle League has put up an annual shield in memory of Cliff, to be competed for annually by the over 70s.

The first name on the shield for the 2015/16 season is Roland Hill, who has been shooting for the Tondu club, and is also an international team member in the sport of clay target shooting.

The treasurer's report, presented by Bryn Richards, showed that the club's financial health was in good shape.

The success of both teams within the Bridgend League was poor overall, but some individuals did well. These include: Richard Brunston, who won the DL Powell Cup; Bryn Richards, winner of the WBE Cup; and the Ewenny Eagles Team which won the WE John Memorial Cup.

The following were elected as officers: Alun Jenkins (Ewenny Pottery), president; Basil George, chairman; Terry Hughes, secretary; Bryn Richards, treasurer; Bryn Richards, captain of The Hawks; S Morriston, captain of The Eagles; and Terry Thomas and Alan Thomas, safety officers.

The club's first practice was held on August 8 and the Christmas shoot will be held on December 22.

The Ewenny club, like many of the clubs in the Bridgend League, is looking for new members to join to keep the sport of air rifle shooting going.

Information about joining the Ewenny Air Rifle Club, or any other club in the Bridgend Air Rifle League, can be obtained from Bryn Richards on 01656 650677.

BASIL GEORGE

YOUR CHANCE TO SHARE THE COMMNITY NEWS...

NORTH BRIDGEND NEWS

A message for all readers in the north of Bridgend who would like to have items included in the community news columns of The GEM:

If you wish to submit reports on any social activity in this region, please contact me.

I am very approachable and will endeavour to include every newsworthy subject.

Contact details: CLIVE MITCHELL
1 Tyn-Y-Coed Close, Sarn, Bridgend CF32 9NQ
TEL: 01656 725399
email: tynycoed1@yahoo.co.uk

WI outing

ON August 17, ten members of Aberkenfig and district WI boarded a bus to Leekes in Llantrisant.

All the Women's Institutes in Glamorgan had been invited to Leekes for a novelty day out and parties of 12 members will be visiting during this year.

On arrival, the ladies were escorted to the restaurant for coffee and cake and a talk about what would be happening during the day.

There were demonstrations of the new duvets and pillows made from revolutionary fabrics on sale, which several members could not resist. There was a raffle and three members were the lucky winners. After lunch, members were shown around.

The next meeting is at 2pm on September 14 in the Len Evans Centre, Heol Persondy, Aberkenfig. The speaker will be Gareth from the Bridgend Samaritans. There will be a raffle, and the competition will be for an old/childhood photograph.

For further information, call Dilys on 01656 725399 or visit www.cobwebs.co.uk or www.facebook.com/Aberkenfigwomensinstitute.

Annual concert

OGMORE Valley male voice choir is heavily involved with the local community, and on Saturday, September 10 will lead the singing at a wedding in the oldest church in Bridgend, St Mary's, Coity.

On September 17 it will hold its annual concert in Canolfan Bethlehem, under the guidance of musical director Eira Paskin, with accompanist Gareth Waite at 7pm. There is a guest male choir from Yorkshire taking part.

Tickets £5, obtainable from any chorister or from John on 01656 841429.

Church news

MAESTEG Amateur Operatic Society is presenting an evening of entertainment at St Theodore's Church, Kenfig Hill on September 8 at 7.30pm, with songs from the musicals.

Tickets, £6, available from Theo's Charity Shop, Bridge Street, Kenfig Hill, or on 01656 742703/ 665547/ 741354. The concert is being held to help pay for essential roof repairs.

Many of us will know someone affected by dementia. The Alzheimer's Society provides information and support to carers and sufferers and is committed to campaigning for a better quality of life for all.

From Cefn Cribwr down to Pyle, parishioners want to establish a dementia-friendly community. As a first step, in conjunction with the Alzheimer's Society, it is hosting an information session at the church on September 15 at 5pm.

The session will last approximately an hour. A Dementia Friend learns a little bit more about what it's like to live with dementia and then turns that understanding into action.

Bridgend Choir

BRIDGEND Male Choir is holding its annual concert at the Tabernacle Church, Derwen Road, Bridgend on Friday, September 9 at 7pm.

The guest artiste is Angharad Morgan, who as a young soprano appeared with them at an annual choir concert more than 10 years ago.

Also appearing is the choir's own Scott Williams who will give an organ recital. This is also the first annual concert for new musical director Ryan Wood who, together with accompanist and deputy Stephanie Bailey, has been putting choristers through their paces.

Tickets, £5, can be purchased at Porters Estate Agents, Nolton Street, Bridgend; by e-mail to *bookings@bridgendmalechoir.co.uk or on 07773 170373/ 07919 335169 and 07890 952363*.

Gardening Club

LALESTON Gardening Club, which has approximately 150 members, meets at Cliff Cottage, High Street, Laleston, a Grade 2 listed building.

It will be holding its horticultural show at the club house this Saturday, September 3, to which members of the public are cordially invited.

The club has a thriving ladies' section, which meets on the first and third Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm. On Tuesday, September 6 there will be a talk by Sue Ford on 'Cornish gardens'.

It holds lectures on the second Monday of the month between October and June at 7.30pm.

Head over heels!

PENCOED Gymnastics and Tumbling Club, formed during the memorable Olympic year of 2012 with the help of community chest funding, is celebrating its greatest success to date: the young gymnasts are head over heels, after recently competing in the British Tumbling finals!

The club was the most successful in the Welsh squad when four members took part in the finals, held in Telford. Brandon James,12, Charlotte Coss, 9, and Evan Jones, 14, came third in their categories, while Dan Thomas, 10, took fifth place in his section.

Post-haste

All residents from Communities First postcode areas are cordially invited to have great fun with their friends and family getting fit to music created with specific beats and tempo changes, which targets every muscle group in the body with free Zumba sessions!

These will take place at Caerau Social Centre on Tuesday, September 13/20/27 from 10.30am to 11.30am. Advance booking is required by telephoning Jeremy on 01656 643518.

Gleemen perform

MAESTEG Gleemen Male Voice Choir, one of the oldest established choirs in the Bridgend CBC area, is holding its annual concert on September 3 which is in a change of venue, at St Michael's And All Angels Church, Brynmawr Place, Maesteg, CF34 9PB.

The choir has a large varied repertoire, under its musical director Alun Hodges, ably assisted by assistant Suzanne Hodges and deputy Siân Davies.

The compère for the evening will be the well-known Anthony Bwye and there is an international star soloist, tenor Luis Esteban Olivares Sandoval.

The concert starts at 7pm; tickets cost £8 and can be obtained from any chorister, or from John on 01656 739365/735007.

Quiz League

BRIDGEND and District Quiz League will be holding a fun, free to enter general knowledge quiz on September 12 in Tondu Railway Club at 8.30pm. Further details can be obtained from Steve on 01656 722754.

Curtain Up

CURTAIN Up Youth Theatre's Youth Theatre's wonderful group of youngsters, assisted by four adults, is putting on a concert to raise funds for the charity 'Action for Children' in the Central Ecumenical Church, Church Street, Maesteg on September 28 at 7pm.

Go to the **Bridgend & Porthcawl GEM** for the latest stories and breaking news

There's lots more online....

www.bridgend-today.co.uk
www.porthcawl-today.co.uk

Charity zumba for local Dogs Trust

A three-hour 'zumbathon' is planned in North Cornelly – to raise money for The Dogs Trust in Bridgend.

Zumba instructor Andy Burnett is holding the event on Saturday, September 10, in North Cornelly Community Centre. Doors open at 1:15pm and the zumbathon starts at 1.30pm.

Andy told The GEM: "We will zumba for three hours. Afterwards, we will enjoy a snack and draw a raffle, with prizes donated from local businesses.

Readers' Letters

Please keep your letters BRIEF and address them to: The Editor, at Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL or email gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk

• Letters and e-mails MUST include your FULL address and a contact telephone number.

An email address alone is not sufficient!

We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail.

Brexit: why rush to get a fair deal?

MIGHT I ask whoever it was (name withheld) who wrote the letter about getting on with Brexit last week, whether they would be content for the current Government to make all the arrangements for exiting the EU in respect of trade, farming, foreign affairs, science, immigration, social and employment policy, environmental matters, fishing, Northern Ireland, criminal justice, funding for Wales and Cornwall, the arts, pharmaceuticals, etc?

Or whether they would prefer to see the finished deal before it was implemented, so that they could take a decision – via an election or in a referendum – as to whether the new deal actually was better than the old?

We may have voted to jump out of the frying pan, but we don't want to land in the fire – at least without having a chance to see what the fire looks like and knowing what it will cost.

The Government can't start the negotiating process until it has some idea of what it wants to achieve. Rushing matters is the way to guarantee a bad deal.

There is not one Brexit, but a thousand possible Brexits. To suggest that all we need is confidence for all to be well, is exactly what they used to say in the past to those who strapped wings to their arms and jumped off very tall buildings.

And, by the way, as a result of the pound's fall in value following the Referendum, Britain now only has the sixth largest economy in the world.

Peter Sain ley Berry,
Cowbridge.

Brexit secret

MY response to the anonymous letter in last week's GEM (August 25) is that I admire his positive view that he knows exactly what the terms of Brexit are.

Perhaps he could let the rest of us into the secret?

David Kennett, Barry.

'Please be patient towards cyclists'

WITH reference to Mr Walton's letter to The GEM last week, not only did he feel the need to be negative about our nation's success in the Olympics, but also take a personal vendetta against cyclists.

Why feel the need to chastise what cyclists wear? Why assume that they have too much time on their hands?

Using terms such as "swarms" is insulting, and to suggest that cyclists are in "epidemic" proportions on the Vale's roads is inferring that they are some sort of disease.

The views on cycling are ill-conceived and petulant. Cyclists out on the roads around the Vale support many local businesses and also raise money for good causes. The Carten100 annual ride from Cardiff to Tenby last year raised nearly £100,000 for Noah's Ark Hospital, and £135,000 the previous year for Velindre Cancer Trust.

In terms of road safety, in 2004, there were 1,655 on roads in Wales. In 2014, the number was 1,263. (Source – gov.wales statistics). This, despite there being "epidemic proportions" of cyclists on the road?

Don't be angry. Be tolerant. We're all different. Next time you see a cyclist on the roads in the Vale, please be patient.

Paul Owen,
Cowbridge.

'Tell us about your social care'

IN the face of deep cuts to social care funding, many disabled and older people are being denied the care and support they need to live independently and with dignity.

As a result, everyday tasks that many of us take for granted, such as washing, dressing and eating, are now proving more and more difficult for thousands of people.

At Leonard Cheshire Disability, we are campaigning for better and fairer social care and would like to hear from your readers about their experiences of care – good or bad. Whether you have received social care yourself, or experienced it through a friend or family member, please get in touch. Together we can make a difference.

You can email us at campaigning@leonardcheshire.org or write to Campaigns, Leonard Cheshire Disability, 66 South Lambeth Road, London, SW8 1RL. For more information visit www.leonardcheshire.org.

Emma McEwan,
(Campaigns manager, Leonard Cheshire Disability).

Maendy YFC embarks on a new club year

MAENDY Young Farmers Club (YFC) recently held its annual general meeting.

The following appointments were made for club officers for the forthcoming club year: Lynn Price was re-elected as president; Heather Jarvis was elected as chairman with Kate Thomas elected as vice-chairman. General secretary is now Jodie Williams; the finances of the club are the responsibility of Tom Rees as treasurer, while Lauren David will keep check of the meetings as minute secretary.

Next on the calendar is the 'New Members Night' on Wednesday, September 7 commencing at 7.30pm at The Duke of Wellington, Cowbridge.

Prospective new members aged between 10 and 26, together with current and past members, are invited to go along from 7.30pm to enjoy an evening of team-building challenges and ice-breaker games.

During the evening attendees will be able to meet new people, learn what YFC has to offer and find about club trips, competitions and socials for the year ahead.

And in case you were wondering – you don't have to be a farmer to be in the YFC!

A highlight of the club's social calendar is also fast approaching: the annual dinner and dance will take place on Saturday, October 15, and is being held at Swalec Stadium, Cardiff.

Tickets are £25 and are available from treasurer, Tom Rees. In the dinner, we will be celebrating another successful year of the club, and past and present members, together with friends and supporters, are welcome to attend. Tickets include a three-course meal and entertainment.

For further information, contact the club chairman, Heather Jarvis, by e-mail at maendy.yfc@gmail.com or telephone 07791 250916.

You can also visit www.maendy-yfc.com and follow @MaendyYFC on twitter, or like 'MaendyYFC' on Facebook for regular updates. **KT**

Lone piper leads moving ceremony to remember tragic Great War soldier who died in Porthcawl

LAST week, people in Porthcawl turned out for a sombre ceremony – marking the centenary of the death of a young soldier who had been recuperating in the town.

Although he died many miles from the battlefields of World War One, local historians unearthed facts about his death which point to the little-understood (at the time) condition of shellshock.

Ceri Joseph of Porthcawl Museum reported: "On August 24, at 2pm, a service of Remembrance was held at St John's Churchyard, Newton, commemorating the centenary of Private John Campbell's death.

"Private Campbell had enlisted into the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders in 1915. The following year he was wounded at the Somme; suffering shellshock as a consequence.

"In the July of 1916, he arrived at the Western General Hospital in Cardiff before being transferred to the St John's Auxiliary Hospital, Rest Bay, Porthcawl.

"John recovered from his wounds, which potentially meant a return to active service.

"On Tuesday, August 24, 1916, at 10.30am, his body was retrieved from the sea, opposite the Sea Bank Hotel. The inquest held into his death a week later, recorded a verdict of '*Found drowned*.'

"Studying the inquest, you cannot fail to note the tragic effect of shellshock."

At the service of Remembrance, the congregation was led to the graveside by bagpiper, John Campbell.

At the graveside, owner Alun Davies placed Private Campbell's medals on the grave, while Father Philip Masson spoke of the tragic effects of war, throughout the years, on the minds of soldiers like John Campbell.

Allan Lloyd, the chairman of the Porthcawl branch of the Royal British Legion, read a poem by Scottish poet, J.B Salmond, '*Poppies*', followed by Scotsman Ian Nisbet's brief account of Private John Campbell's life.

During Reveille, played by Edward Jones, the British Legion lowered their standards.

After the Blessing, the service ended with Ian Nisbet placing the poppy wreath, donated by the Royal British Legion and Porthcawl Museum member Mrs Cheryl Purchase, on Private Campbell's grave, as the piper played 'Flowers of the Forest, ' a Scottish lament.

Private John Campbell, will be remembered as the young man who enlisted with the intention of serving his country in a time of great need.

Another life sacrificed for our freedom.

Photographs by David Swidenbank
www.thedogphotographerwales.com

Private Campbell's medals and a wreath were placed at his graveside.

A warm welcome to Maesteg Market

***RIGHT:** Local politicians gathered for the unveiling of improvements to Maesteg Market. A reproduction of the market's historic charter can now be found outside the building.*

THE outside of Maesteg Market has been given a make-over to help provide a warmer welcome for shoppers.

New signage has been added at each entrance to the historic listed building while the windows on the ground floor have been decorated with new graphic panels.

The new additions were unveiled at the market last week by the mayor of Bridgend County Borough, Coun Reg Jenkins and council leader Mel Nott, who said: "For more than a century, Maesteg Market has brought the local community together at the heart of this fantastic town, and it's a pleasure to usher in another exciting chapter in the market's history."

BCBC provided £25,000 to fund the improvements.

Go to the **The GEM** for the latest stories and breaking news...
www.bridgend-today.co.uk
www.porthcawl-today.co.uk

Bridgend County Borough Mayor Reg Jenkins and his wife Teresa Jenkins, outside one of the new entrance signs at Maesteg Market.

One of the new window graphics at Maesteg Market.

NEWTON BEER AND MUSIC FESTIVAL FILLS THE VILLAGE GREEN AS THE BANDS PLAY ON

Photographs by
FRANK SHIPTON
(email frankshipton@mac.com or telephone 07790 882925)

THE organisers of the Newton Beer and Music Festival in Porthcawl spent the days leading up to the event sweating on worrying weather forecasts.

However, the rainstorms headed across the border and, apart from one 15-minute drizzle, all was well. The village green was packed by lunchtme, and the crowds kept on coming.

Bands played from 10am through into the evening and it's worth noting that the village green was spotless the following morning!

In just a few years, the festival has become a highlight in the Porthcawl calendar, so congratulations to the team behind it!

ABOVE: Local band Catching Kate look out on an enthusiastic crowd and (below) are in full swing.

Suzie's Blues on stage.

ABOVE: Steve Maitland-Thomas from the organising team introduces the opening band.

Porthcawl band National Shame.

The Guzzards are favourites at the festival.

Local band South Road opened the show.

The Side Effects on stage.

The Rude Souls played a high-energy set.

PACT meetings

PYLE/CORNELLY PACT on Thursday, September 1 at Pyle Life Centre at 6.30pm.

SARN/BRYNCOCH PACT on Monday, September 5 at Sarn Life Centre at 7pm.

BETTWS PACT on Thursday, September 8 at Bettws Life Centre at 2pm.

ABERKENFIG/PENYFAI PACT on Monday, September 12 at Smyrna Chapel at 6pm.

MAESTEG EAST/WEST PACT on Monday, September 12 at Cwm Calon Day Centre at 6pm.

LLANGYNWYD PACT on Tuesday, September 13 at Llangynwyd Village Hall at 11am.

OGMORE VALE/NANTYMOEL PACT on Wednesday, September 14 at Dinam Close sheltered accommodation at 7pm.

LLANGEINOR PACT on Wednesday, September 28 at the Richard Price Centre at 5.30pm.

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BCBC LEADER TO STEP DOWN

The Leader of Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC), Coun Mel Nott OBE, is to retire from public service.

After leading the local authority for eight years, he will step down from the role of leader when Council meets on October 5, 2016, and will not stand in local government elections due to be held in 2017.

Coun Nott, who will celebrate his 74th birthday later this year, said: "This will be an opportunity for the Labour Group to appoint a new leader who will take them forward into next year's local government elections."

He first became a councillor in 1992 when he was elected to the former Mid Glamorgan County Council, later joining BCBC in 1996 following local government reorganisation across Wales.

When the authority adopted a leader and cabinet system in 2002, Councillor Nott became Deputy Leader. He was later elected Leader of the Labour Group in 2004, then in 2008 became Leader of the authority - a position which he has continued to hold every year since.

He also served as a magistrate for 25 years, and in 2013 was presented with an OBE for services to the community and local government.

Coun Nott said: "Serving as the leader of a local authority is an incredible honour and I have always treated the role with the seriousness and commitment that it demands.

"A council leader has to remain firmly focused on ensuring that the authority can provide services that really make a difference in the lives of local people.

"It is not an easy job to do, and requires vast amounts of time and commitment that extend far beyond the normal working day. This has a significant impact on your personal life, and I have had reason to be grateful for the continued patience and understanding of my family and friends on many occasions.

"Having led the council for eight years, I believe that I have reached the point where I have achieved all that I can, both as a leader and also as a councillor representing the ward of Sarn.

"I now want to focus on my family commitments and repay them for the understanding that they have shown me while I served as a council leader, councillor and magistrate, so it is with great reluctance that I have made the decision to step down.

"During my time as Leader, I have been ably supported by cabinet members, fellow councillors and council officers, and I would like to acknowledge their dedication and professionalism.

"Working in any capacity within local government is not easy, but I truly believe that councils form an essential part of society, and the full extent of the contribution that they make towards the lives of people throughout the community is often unrecognised.

"Although I will be stepping down as Leader on 5 October, I will continue to act as the ward member for Sarn until local government elections next year.

"It has truly been an honour to represent and fight for the best interests of the area in which I have lived my whole life, both as a leader and a ward member. I will always be grateful for it."

A new leader for BCBC will be elected and announced at the meeting of Council on Wednesday, October 5.

The GEM makes 'Vale Show' presentation to Marie Curie

Jan Irving of The GEM (left) was delighted to make a presentation to Marie Curie last week. She handed over £336.65 and two un-counted tins to community fundraiser Georgina Burke – the proceeds of a GEM raffle at the Vale Show.

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Hospitals aiming to recruit apprentices

AS the dust settles on school exam results, young jobseekers can consider a role in the Welsh NHS – thanks to a pilot programme by the ABMU Health Board.

It is aiming to recruit 19 apprentices, aged between 16 and 24, to fill vacancies in departments including therapies, pathology, IT and hotel services.

"Successful applicants will be given a fixed-term 12-month contract and work towards a nationally recognised qualification while being paid an apprentice rate.

"It is hoped the apprenticeships will not only give people a chance to build up their CVs and experienc, but also provide a close-up look at the health service and the many career opportunities it offers," said ABMU learning and development manager Ruth Gates. This is a new project for us and something that I hope will grow in the future, so that we can attract more young people into the workforce and enable them to gain the skills, experience and qualifications for a long career within the health board."

Director of therapies, Amanda Hall, added: "Apprentices will be a huge benefit to our department, as they will be able to assist the team with essential day-to-day tasks – while we offer them the chance to learn vital skills, which will help them in a future career.

"We are also looking at ways in which we can recruit more apprentices into clinical support roles across the therapy directorate."

For more information, go to jobs.abm.wales.nhs.uk/job_list/s10/Apprenticeships?_ts=908569.

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HRT's Phil 'Riding the Rockies' for Velindre

Philip Thomas, director at Herbert R Thomas, with brother-in-laws Nick Phillips and Paul Collingridge, willsoon be 'Riding the Rockies' in aid of Velindre Hospital.

In September 2014, Phil's sister-in-law Helen Phillips (wife of Nick) lost her four-year battle with breast cancer.

She left behind two daughters, her husband and a family, who wanted to show their support for Velindre Cancer Hospital, which had provided care to Helen during her illness.

Philip explained: "I have been a keen cyclist for many years, and am looking forward to the 405km ride from Canmor to Jasper.

"While the ride will be a challenge, we are focusing on the impact our efforts will have in fundraising for such a worthy cause."

To ensure Phil is at his physical peak for the Rockies Ride, he has taken part in a number of training and fundraising events this year.

These include the Tour of Pembroke, Cardiff Half Marathon, Velothon, Dragon Ride, Tenby Long Course Weekend, JLL Triathlon and the Mumbles Triathlon.

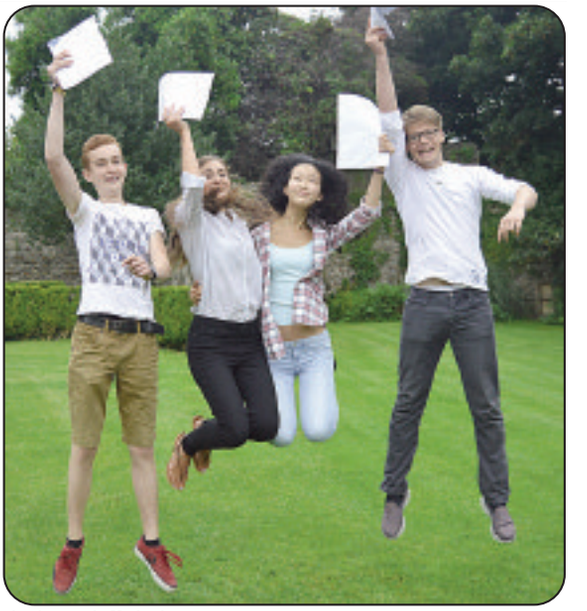
The final part of this training regime comes to a climax on September 3, seeing him ride to Penderyn market to auction sheep!

To date, the family has raised about £35,000 for the charity by taking part in numerous sporting challenges and holding an auction at the Wildflower Ball in Helen's memory.

If you would like to donate to Phil's charity ride, visit: mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/philipthomas1.

CATHEDRAL SCHOOL GCSE SUCCESS IS CELEBRATED!

Ella Thomas who secured 11A and a distinction in further maths.*



HUZZAH! From left: James Knowles, Sophia Strinati, Katherine Shi and Charles Hargrave who all achieved 10A or better in their GCSE results.*

FOLLOWING the excellent results at A-Level last week, the Cathedral School is celebrating "a very strong set" of GCSE results.

Once again, the most common grade achieved was A* and 88 per cent of grades were A* – B, with 98 per cent of pupils gaining at least five GCSE grades A* – C (including mathematics and English).

Almost two thirds of all grades were A*/A. The average performance was the equivalent of just over 10 A grades per pupil.

Top performers included Ella Thomas, who scored 11A* and a distinction in further mathematics.

Among the students achieving 10A* or better, and joining Ella in the sixth form at the Cathedral School, were Charles Hargrave, who will study Spanish, biology, chemistry and physics and Katherine Shi, who will take biology, chemistry, mathematics and religious studies at A-Level.

James Knowles will study history, music, mathematics and Spanish and Sophia Strinati will take Spanish, biology, chemistry and mathematics.

The new head of the Cathedral School, Clare Sherwood, said: "I was absolutely delighted to congratulate the pupils this morning on their fantastic GCSE results.

"Following the School's continued success at A-Level last week, we are all absolutely delighted that year-11 have done so well which is testament to their hard work and the excellent teaching at the Cathedral School."

The school will host an open morning (nursery – sixth form) on Saturday, October 1. For further details, contact the registrar on 029 2083 8504 or registrar@cathedral-school.co.uk.

SOMME'S 'FINAL LETTERS' ON FILM

DURING the Battle of the Somme, Welsh troops were famously known for their assault on Mametz Wood, and the tragedy and triumph which followed.

On the first day of the Battle of the Somme, the Welsh were also at Beaumont Hamel, fighting alongside the Newfoundlanders.

A new short, *Letters Home*, follows the last moments of three soldiers all from different backgrounds and what they decide to write home in what could become their final letters.

Written by Jacqueline Swift, (Jaye Swift) of Llantwit Major, it started its life as a short play in 2012 at Pontardawe ScriptSlam and went on to win the audience award.

Jaye adapted it to a screenplay, which reached the semi-finals of the London Underwire Festival, and was chosen for a rehearsed reading at the London Screenwriters' Festival.

In the spring of 2014 Jaye, along with co-producer Oli Curry decided to bring the film to life by producing it themselves. All of the cast and crew are either Welsh or live in Wales.

Letters Home was filmed entirely on location in Sigingston and Morfa Bay, Pendine.

The 22-minute-long film will be screened four times over Barry War Weekend.

GLEN BOOKER

Wenvoe book sale

A VOLUNTARY group – Wenvoe Community Library Ltd – is taking over the running of the library in Wenvoe and its supporters are holding a grand secondhand book sale on Saturday, September 3, to raise funds.

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'Triple whammy' fear for Welsh care homes

A SOCIAL care leader has called for urgent action to deal with the "triple whammy" battering care homes and domiciliary care companies in Bridgend and the Vale.

Mario Kreft, the chair of Care Forum Wales, called on the Welsh Government to act after new figures revealed a steep rise in the number of people aged 85 or over to more than 184,000.

According to Public Health Wales, the Bridgend figure will reach 8,200, by 2036 which represents a 166 per cent increase since 2011, while in the Vale the numbers are expected to rise to 8,500, up 165 per cent.

At the same time, says Mr Kreft, the sector is being hit by chronic underfunding and the prospect of having to give staff a 30 per cent pay increase without knowing where the money is coming from.

The introduction of the living wage would also have a 'knock on effect' across the board because remuneration at every level would have to be increased accordingly to maintain pay differentials.

In Wales, social care looks after 150,000 people and employs 75,000 staff, which is over five per cent of the Welsh workforce.

Between them, care homes and nursing homes have some 23,000 beds – more than double the number provided by the NHS.

Mario Kreft.

But Mr Kreft believes social care is at a tipping point in 2016, and the new Welsh Government needs to respond.

He explained: "Labour's manifesto for the recent Assembly elections very clearly stated that they saw social care as a sector of national importance, something with which I wholeheartedly agree.

"Social care should be seen as being as important as our road and rail infrastructure. It helps to underpin the NHS and is the glue that binds communities together.

"We need a sustainable NHS that people can flow through, and this is where the care sector comes in.

"But the pressure on the NHS today in Wales is directly affected, negatively, by a lack of foresight, connectivity and planning in social care policy in Wales.

"All too often local health boards and local councils do not talk, let alone work together on delivering social care.

"The current system is clearly dysfunctional and the Welsh Government needs to deliver on its manifesto promise.

"Sadly, the reality is that fewer care beds are opening and more are closing and the end result is that more and more pressure is being put back on the NHS.

"The flow back is into the NHS and until we can make health boards work with councils and providers, and get regulators on board, that will continue.

"Matters are being made worse because there is a desperate shortage of nurses which is affecting both the NHS and social care, resulting in added pressure all around.

"Introducing the national living wage over the next four years is going to represent a 30 per cent increase for many workers. This will ramp up all pay rates across the sector and this will have to be paid for.

"Most industries are able to pass such increases on to the customer. However, the overwhelming majority of people in care homes in Wales are supported by local authorities, and health boards who are having their budgets cut. That means there is just no money to pay these increases.

"Something has got to give and I'm afraid it will plunge the social care sector into an even deeper crisis unless the Welsh Government acts with urgency to resolve this triple whammy."

GLAMORGAN YFC IN NEW HANDS FOR A NEW YEAR

Outgoing chairman Kay Lewis-Thomas (left) hands over the reins to Laura Elliott.

GLAMORGAN Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs (YFC) recently held its annual general meeting and the election for its officer team for 2016/17.

Martyn Popham was re-elected as president while Laura Elliott was elected chairman, with Leyshon Griffiths vice chairman.

Amy Edwards is now competitions chairman while Matthew Tucker was re-elected as training and promotions chairman.

Typically, the summer time is a quieter period for YFC activity due to the traditional farming calendar. However, members have been attending various agricultural shows and events over the past few months, namely the Vale of Glamorgan Show, Gower Show and Bedwellty Show, along with local ploughing matches.

Members also volunteered their time to help the smooth running of activities or promoted the organisation, along with the farming industry.

Laura Elliott, the new chairman, said: "There is no other organisation like YFC. It is diverse and offers endless opportunities for young people aged between 10 and 26.

"From informative talks, trips and activities to competitions, social events and travel opportunities, members are encouraged to explore all aspects.

"Don't forget; you don't need to be a farmer to be in Young Farmers!"

To find out more, contact county organiser Gwyneth Thomas, by e-mail email at *Glamorgan@yfc-wales.org.uk* or telephone 07779 331839. You can also visit *www.glamorganyfc.com.uk* and follow @GlamorganYFC on twitter or 'like' the 'GlamorganYFC' page on Facebook for regular updates.

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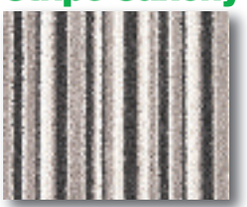
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Tue - Thur: 9.30am - 6.00pm
Fri - Sat: 9.00am - 6.00pm
Sunday: 10.30am - 4.30pm

Out & About with The GEM

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WHAT'S ON AND WHERE?

Open doors

ST TYFODWG'S Church has an Open Door event on Saturday, September 3 from 10am – 5pm.

The grade II medieval church has an outstanding monument in the chancel – the Pilgrim Stone, of national importance, which dates from the 13th – 14th century.

Also on display will be the Elizabethan silver chalice, parish records and other displays of interest from the area.

Cowbridge and District Flower Arranging

THE club recommences after the summer break on Wednesday, September 7, with a demonstration by Linda Garrett entitled 'All that Glisters'. They meet in the Lesser Hall, Cowbridge at 7.30pm. Visitors welcome (at £7).

Warm Homes Nest scheme

THE Welsh Government Warm Homes Nest scheme has joined forces with flu jab clinics across Barry to provide support to patients.

The Nest team will be at Highlight Park (September 8), Waterfront surgery (September 9) Practice of Health (September 12) and Gibbonsdown surgery (September 16) between 10am and 12pm.

The team will provide free, energy-saving advice and support to patients who struggle to heat their homes.

Choir at Tabernacle

BRIDGEND Male Choir will perform at Tabernacle Church, Derwen Road, Bridgend, on Friday, September 9 at 7 pm.

Guests are soprano, Angharad Morgan and organist, Scott Williams. Tickets (£5) available from Porters Estate Agents, 75 Nolton Street, Bridgend; on-line at bookings@bridgendmalechoir.co.uk or telephone 07773 170373.

Live music

ON Saturday, September 10 at 7pm Bearpak present an evening of live music, with Killer State (rock/punk classic covers); Chordie and the X's (mod covers) and Strictly Acoustic (acoustic singers).

Barry Island Sports and Social Club (7 – late). Tickets £5, available from Bearpak, Penarth; Vic Hopkins butchers, High Street, Barry; Studio 14, Island Road, Barry; Zone Cellular, Holton Road, Barry and from Barry Island Sports and Social Club.

Coffee morning

GARTH OAP Club is supporting the cancer charity Macmillan by holding a 'World's Biggest Coffee Morning' on Saturday, September 10, from 10am – 12 noon.

The cost is £3 and the venue is the Garth Hall, Bridgend Road, Maesteg.

Donations of homemade cake would be welcome.

BAVO surgery

BRIDGEND Association of Voluntary Organisations (BAVO) is hosting a surgery of one to one appointments with staff from the Welsh Church Act Fund on Friday, September 30.

The fund can support the repair or refurbishment of buildings, purchase of equipment and works to comply with the Equalities Act.

For further information, contact 01656 810400 or bavo@bavo.org.uk to make an appointment.

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Ty Hafan lottery winners

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number D946.

● **£2,000:** 691906.

● **The rollover, which now stands at £2,000, was not won this week.**

● **£10:** 999751, 791155, 354499, 982740, 772054, 763056, 840568, 252545, 528674, 954759, 255637, 338950, 487733, 842850, 358773, 426078, 424379, 401428, 381,1984950.

● **£5:** 326359, 382610, 642612, 575562, 589259, 302008, 214236, 414844, 244675, 233339, 781489, 434608, 119350, 311866, 702416, 103737, 818058, 356340, 438084, 915795, 835792, 208806, 498785, 720446, 865032, 947769, 732920, 271994, 551201, 744255, 710261, 155507, 208163, 792702, 197367, 991933, 716312, 673204, 533257, 650936, 853270, 804609, 648042, 566428, 117994, 421326, 224713, 767192, 895015, 198240, 230484, 359176, 778489, 809909, 863573, 543168, 431095, 874, 1867992, 1984865.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information please telephone 029 2053 2300.

Rachael's weight loss helps deliver her dream

RACHAEL REES-JONES joined her local Slimming World group in Brackla, Bridgend, when she was advised by her fertility clinic that losing weight would help her chances of getting pregnant.

Rachael dropped from 12 stone 5 pounds, to 9 stone 8, to achieve a healthy weight, and fell pregnant twice – despite being given a 10 per cent chance of success.

She said: "I absolutely love Slimming World; it's not a diet, I enjoy real foods like a full cooked breakfast, steak and Slimming World chips, Spaghetti Bolognese, and my favourite roast dinner. I still have treats and enjoy a social life, but now I'm in control. A few small changes have made a huge difference!"

Rachael is so committed to the plan that she is changing direction to become a Slimming World consultant.

Rachael's Bridgend group is launching on Saturday, September 3, at Nolton Church Hall, Merythyr Mawr Road North.

Two sessions are available every Saturday at 8am and 10am.

For more information, contact Rachael on 07809 626285.

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New consultant from 3rd September
Saturdays 8am and 10am
Nolton Church Hall, Merthyr Mawr Road, Bridgend
Rachael 07809 626285

Saturdays 8am and 10am
Buttrills Community Centre, North Walk, Barry
Martin 07827 445570

Mondays 5.00pm and 7.00pm
Cadoxton Moors Community Centre, off Cardiff Road, Barry
Julie 07903 585693

Mondays 5.30pm and 7.30pm
Celtic Way Community Centre, Rhoose
Helen 01446 750738/ 07968 355119

Mondays 5.30pm and 7.30pm
Elfed Avenue United Church, Elfed Avenue, Penarth
Nia 07793 885581

Mondays 5.30pm and 7.30pm
Tabernacle Church Kings Square, Barry
Lorraine 01446 407002

Tuesdays 9.30am
Gilgal Church, Woodland Ave, Porthcawl
Bev 07912 172674

Tuesdays 5.30pm and 7.30pm
Ebenezer Church Hall (opposite surgery), Heol Fach, North Cornelly, Bridgend, Mid Glamorgan
Dee 07733 267369

Tuesdays 9.30am and 11.30am
Parish of Our Lady & St Illtyd, (Catholic Church), Ham Lane East, Llantwit Major
Helen 01446 750738/ 07968355119

Tuesdays 5.30pm
Holy Trinity Presbyterian, Church Hall, Trinity Street, Barry
Joanne 01446 404897

Tuesdays 5.30pm
Brackla Community Centre, Brackla
NEW VENUE FROM 6th SEPTEMBER
Rhian 07837 280013

Tuesdays 5.30pm and 7.30pm
Parish of Our Lady & St Illtyd, (Catholic Church), Ham Lane East, Llantwit Major
Helen 01446 750738/ 07968355119

Tuesdays 5.30pm and 7.30pm
Aberkenfig Welfare Hall, Hope Avenue, Bridgend
Scott 07415 724562

Tuesdays 6.30pm
The Old School, South Road, Sully CF64 5TG
Nicola 01446 740394

Wednesdays 9.30am
Cornelly Methodist Church (opp. surgery)
Dee 07733 267369

Wednesdays 6.00pm
Cadoxton Methodist Church, Church Road, Barry
Joanne 01446 404897

Wednesdays 4.45pm and 6:45pm
St Francis Millennium Centre, Park Road, Porth-Y-Castell, Barry
Annamarie 01446 736534

Wednesday 3.30pm, 5.30pm, and 7.30pm
Bridgend Deaf Club, Coychurch Road, Bridgend
Helen - 01656 720963

Thursdays 3.30pm, 5.30pm and 7.30pm
Talbot Community Centre, Kenfig Hill
Millie 07765 040006

Thursdays 10.15am
St Helen's Church Hall, Wyndham Street, Barry CF63 4EL
Nicola - 01446 740394

Thursdays 5:30pm
Highlight Park Community Centre, Barry Annamarie 01446 736534

Fridays 9.30am
St John Cymru-Wales, Minerva St, Bridgend
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THIS POPSTAR IS TOP OF THE CHARTS!

SINCE coming to prominence on Saturday Night Live, The Lonely Island (comprising Andy Samberg, Jorma Taccone and Akiva Schaffer) have turned their hand to comedy albums and a feature film, the vastly-underrated gem that is *Hot Rod*.

With Samberg currently starring in *Brooklyn 99*, their profile is getting bigger and bigger, and the trio are ready to bring their second film to the big screen in *Popstar: Never Stop Never Stopping*.

Samberg plays Conner4Real, a pop star who left his former group the Style Boyz (consisting of Taccone's Owen and Schaffer's Lawrence) for solo success. But when his solo album flops massively, Conner (with a documentary crew following him) has to deal with the aftershock...

In recent years, concert films of the likes of Justin Bieber, One Direction and Katy Perry have been released in cinemas; replicating the largesse of arena shows while tempered by backstage footage of the stars at their 'rawest'.

Music documentaries are nothing new (*This Is Spinal Tap* and The Rutles' *All You Need is Cash* spring to mind) but *Popstar* is the first to truly try and skewer the lavish ridiculousness of the 21st century pop world.

While the target may not be the most unique, the resulting film is a hilarious take on the vacuous world of pop that 'never stops never stopping' delivering laughs throughout. While the last film from The Lonely Island was the slightly more obscure (but no less hilarious) *Hot Rod*, here the comedy feels a little broader, a little coarser yet still retains their unique brand of humour.

Having released three albums, the trio know their way around a tune and whether Conner is singing about the assassination of Osama Bin Laden, his love of gay equality (while taking pains to point out he's straight) or telling us how humble he is, the songs hit the spot beautifully.

By obeying the rule of any documentary (or indeed mockumentary) that the best material comes when your subject is on the way down rather than on the up, Conner's slow demise is achingly hilarious – he wanders from PR disaster to PR disaster, his entourage (including a scarf wrangler) are deserting him and his album reviews are less than complimentary.

With the use of talking heads to legitimise the film (such bastion of popular music like Simon Cowell, Ringo Starr and Usher all pop up), while there are cameos that are cleverly placed and work very well, while

by GARETH JAMIESON
Follow Screen Talk on Twitter – @GEMScreenTalk

echoes of *Spinal Tap* can be found in Owen (who has gone from Conner's bandmate to DJ) wearing a helmet that emits a vicious laser beam and an even more vicious droning noise (I wonder if that will inconveniently come into play?), and in Conner's dietary requirements.

It's clever enough to lace its pot-shots with irony and deprecation while also obeying the rules of the musical documentary/biopic; grudges are highlighted (the last member of the Style Boyz, Lawrence, is now living his life as a farmer) and played out, a younger, cooler rapper slowly outstrips Conner's achievements, the absurdities of the industry as whole the canvas on which the characters play.

The performances all hit the right notes, Samberg playing the maladjusted Conner with great flair and lack of knowing, while Taccone and Schaffer's small roles work as a foil to the character. Tim Meadows' manager and Sarah Silverman's publicist get the occasional moment to shine, while the cast is padded out with skilled comedians who bring the right amount to their roles (the likes of Joan Cusack, Maya Rudolph and Bill Hader dependably good).

It also avoids the fatal trap of comedies by neither overstaying its welcome at a lean 87 minutes, while the predictable redemptive conclusion (with a particularly impressive musical cameo) feels earned and welcome rather than formulaic.

It all adds up to a pretty funny and strong film; this *Popstar* is definitely top of the charts!

VERDICT: This *Popstar* is definitely a smash-hit, The Lonely Island's pop mockumentary hitting the right notes throughout. A gentle poke at the music industry, its gag rate is impressive as are the songs, with winning performances throughout. Conner isn't the only thing '4Real' in this glorious comedy. *Highly recommended*.

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *Hot Rod* (2007), *This Is Spinal Tap* (1984).

'RUMOURS' *SPREAD BY THE CONCEPT PLAYERS*

***Chaos ensues with the cast of* Rumours.**

CONCEPT Players, a south Wales theatre company, returns after the success of *Little Me* and the multi-award winning *Blithe Spirit* with the sophisticated farce *Rumours*.

This wonderfully funny play is from the pen of perhaps America's greatest comedic writer, Neil Simon, who has received more combined Oscar and Tony nominations than any other writer.

His works have included *Barefoot in the Park, The Odd Couple, The Sunshine Boys, Biloxi Blues, Plaza Suite, Sweet Charity, Little Me, The Goodbye Girl* and *California Suite*.

Stars such as Michael Caine, Jane Fonda and Maggie Smith (who won an Oscar for her portrayal of a diva in California Suite) have all performed Simon's work.

The action starts as soon as the curtain rises. A gun has been fired at the home of a prominent British cabinet minister just as his friends gather to celebrate his 10th wedding anniversary.

Chaos ensues when well-meaning friends try to come up with suitable explanations as the other guests arrive, and that is all before the police get there!

The talents of Concept Players have recently earned them awards from the Glamorgan Drama League and the National Operatic & Dramatic Association.

With farce a particular speciality of Concept Players, this is a revival not to be missed.

Rumours opens at the Paget Rooms, Penarth on Thursday, September 15 at 7:30pm (doors open at 7pm) and runs until Saturday, September 17.

Tickets £12 each are available from www.concept-players.com, or via the Concept box office (029) 2049 0019 or the Borough Theatre box office (01873) 850805 or online at www.boroughtheatreabergavenny.co.uk.

Visit planned to the National Botanic Gardens

THE local National Trust group is planning a day trip on Sunday, September 25 to the National Botanic Garden of Wales, leaving Cowbridge at 9.30am.

Please email vofgant@gmail.com with names and contact details to reserve your seat, and non-members are welcome.

The cost will be £14 to include entry to the garden; cheques payable to VOGANTM please, to the treasurer.

Our next meeting with a guest speaker will be on Wednesday, September 21 in The Duke at 7.30pm when Richard Neale, the Trust's 'Welsh Coast' project manager will tell us about coastal conservation work.

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2.5 MILLION PEOPLE ARE LIVING WITH CANCER...

Macmillan 'World's Biggest Coffee Morning' is scheduled for Friday, September 30, but you can choose the best date to host your event

Macmillan is one of the United Kingdom's great charities, providing care and support for people at their time of greatest need, and each year it holds its flagship fundraiser 'The World's Biggest Coffee Morning'.

Last year £25 million was raised and organisers hope to beat that figure this year.

A spokesman for the charity explained: "The World's Biggest Coffee Morning is Macmillan's biggest fundraising event for people facing cancer.

"We ask people all over the UK to host their own coffee mornings, and donations on the day are made to Macmillan.

"There are now 2.5 million people in the UK living with cancer. By 2030, it will be 4 million people, and we want to be there for them all.

"One in three of us will get cancer, and it will be one of the toughest things we'll ever have to face. Our goal is to make sure no one faces cancer alone.

"We provide medical, emotional, practical and financial support, and campaign for better cancer care. And because cancer affects more than just those facing it, we're there for friends and family too."

The official date of the coffee morning is Friday September 30, but people can organise one on the day that suits them best.

How do you hold your own coffee morning?

The spokesman explained: "It's easy. Sign up at *https://coffeeregister.macmillan.org.uk* and we'll send you your pack in 12 working days.

"Then all you have to do is decide what to do for your coffee morning and where and when you want it to take place.

"Invite your friends, family, colleagues or open it up to the public by posting it on our online coffee morning map.

"Enjoy catching up over cake and a cuppa, collect your donations and send them through to us via post, online, on the phone or at the bank."

(There are full details on the methods you can use to send off funds to Macmillan on the website).

If you want to make your coffee morning open to the public, you can post the details on Mamillan's online map, and download posters and promotional materials to put up at work, in shops and on notice boards.

When guests make a contribution, you can ask them to 'Gift Aid it' which increases the value of a donation. For every £1 people donate, it means the charity can can claim an extra 25p from the government.

The spokesman added: "If everyone claimed Gift Aid on their coffee morning donations, we could raise an extra £2 million!

"That kind of money could pay for a brand new oncology and outpatient unit in a hospital."

The Gift Aid form can be download from the Macmillan site.

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Macmillan's support line

PEOPLE should be aware that Macmillan runs a support line on 0808 808 00 00 (Monday to Friday, 9am–8pm).

A spokeswoman explained that if someone is diagnosed with cancer, Macmillan has experts on hand who can provide a sympathetic ear.

"We know cancer changes everything. But you don't need to face it alone.

"Many people find it hard to talk to their loved ones about cancer, or to talk about it at all. But a chat with one of our experts can help you find the words you need. Sometimes, talking to someone outside your family and group of friends can really help.

"When you have a hospital appointment or visit your GP, you may not take in everything they tell you, or know which questions to ask. Our nurse specialists are here to answer your questions when you get home.

"You can also find support in your area with a local cancer support group or pop into one of our local information and support centres, as well as ordering free booklets and publications."

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THE PARC SLIP MINING DISASTER REMEMBERED

FRIDAY, August 26 marked the 124th anniversary of the mining explosion in 1892 that cost the lives of 112 men and boys. The site of the explosion is now a nature reserve.

Parc Slip Nature Reserve in Tondu, Bridgend, is a place to admire wildlife, but it wasn't always a haven.

Up until the 1980s, Parc Slip was an open-cast coal mine. On August 24, 1892, there was an explosion in the mine, thought to be caused by a miner's lamp.

The explosion trapped and injured many people and a rescue begab. Despite their efforts, 112 men and boys lost their lives that day. It was one of the most important as well as tragic events in the history of the area.

At 8.15am on the morning of August 26, people gathered at the memorial at Parc Slip to pay their respects.

The mayor of Bridgend County Borough, Coun Reg Jenkins and the mayoress, Mrs Teresa Jenkins, were among them. A speech was made, followed by a period of silence and afterwards people shared their stories of family members' experiences of the disaster.

Coun Jenkins said: "It is absolutely vital that we should take time to remember this tragic disaster and the deep effect that it had on our community. Fathers, sons and brothers lost their lives on that dark day, leaving 60 women widowed and 153 children without a dad."

The miners who lost their lives in the explosion are remembered today at Parc Slip Nature Reserve with a stone memorial fountain in the southern end of the reserve.

The fountain is made up of 112 stones – one for every person who lost their life. The fountain is adjacent to the cycle track and bridle path, making the paths leading to it accessible.

The memorial at Parc Slip Nature Reserve.

Unlucky Seren needs a good home

Seren.

The GEM is working with the Dogs Trust, Bridgend, to find loving homes for dogs in their care.

SEREN is a stunning crossbreed, approximately six years old; she came to us first when she was a pup and had been thrown out of a car.

She was returned to us by a previous owner and has now been with us for over 770 days.

Seren is a sparky girl who is always on the go, she loves catching balls thrown for her. She needs to live with an active, confident and experienced owner, she can also live with children over 14 years old.

Seren can be cheeky sometimes, and her carers walk with her alongside other dogs to keep her well socialised.

Any potential owner will need to come to the centre a few times to work alongside her trainer to manage her mad five minutes.

If you can offer Seren a loving home, call us on 01656 725219 or visit our website. Thank you.

RHIANNON CHAMBERLAIN

'Diabetes: studying need not be stressful'

MANY young people in the area will be getting ready to start university this month.

This is a big change and can be daunting, especially if you're living with a lifelong medical condition such as Type 1 diabetes.

As well as all the usual concerns about leaving home for the first time, making friends and starting your studies, young people with Type 1 diabetes may have some extra concerns.

It can seem overwhelming to stay in control of your blood glucose levels alongside a new university routine and lifestyle, tell new friends what might happen if you have a hypo, and think about the effects of drinking and stress on your condition.

But with the right preparation and support there is no reason why people living with diabetes can't live student life to the full. First things first, make sure you register at your local GP surgery or university health centre so that you will have access to healthcare professional advice when you need it.

Also, visit the Diabetes UK website where you will find helpful tips, from how to store your insulin in a shared fridge, to dealing with the stress of studying and making sure your new friends are aware of your condition.

There are also some brilliant recipes for even the thriftiest of student budgets on our website www.diabetes.org.uk/enjoyfood.

Starting university if you have Type 1 diabetes doesn't have to be stressful so make sure you're prepared, and if you need any more advice you can give our helpline a call on 0345 123 2399.

Dai Williams,
Director of Diabetes UK Cymru.

Research update

PROFESSOR S Wong will provide an update on diabetes research for the Vale of Glamorgan Diabetes UK Voluntary Group on Tuesday, September 20.

All are welcome to the meeting, which will be held in the boardroom of Llandough Hospital, Penarth from 7.30pm – 9pm.

Welsh delegation to visit Bosnia

THE charity 'Remembering Srebrenica' has taken a delegation of Welsh politicians, teachers and journalists to Bosnia, to learn how lessons from the atrocity can be used to help create a better, safer and stronger society in Wales.

The 'Lessons from Srebrenica' delegation, led by David Melding AM, co-chair of the Wales Board of Remembering Srebrenica and former Deputy Presiding Officer of the National Assembly was being joined by two Labour party members of the Assembly, Jane Bryant and Joyce Watson, ITV Wales political reporter Owain Phillips, and teacher Joe Lucas.

MARINE AND COASTAL ACCESS ACT 2009
PART 4: MARINE LICENSING
APPLICATION FOR A MARINE LICENCE TO CARRY OUT REPAIRS TO SEA DEFENCES AT ABERTHAW POWER STATION

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with Part 4, Chapter 1, Section 68 of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 that RWE GENERATION UK Plc. has applied to Natural Resources Wales, acting on behalf of the Licensing Authority, for a marine licence to CARRY OUT REPAIRS TO SEA DEFENCES AT ABERTHAW POWER STATION.

The application and plans showing the position of the works may be inspected at The County Library, Barry, King Square, Barry CF63 4RW.

Alternatively, copies of the application can be obtained from the Cardiff Permitting Service, Natural Resources Wales, 29 Newport Road, Cambria House, Cardiff, CF24 0TP. **Permittingconsultations@Naturalresources wales.gov.uk.**

Representations or objections in respect of the application should be made in writing to: Marine Licensing Team, Cardiff Permitting Service, Natural Resources Wales, 29 Newport Road, Cambria House, Cardiff, CF24 0TP, or e-mail **marinelicensing@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk**

Representations or objections should be made within 28 days of the date of this notice, quoting reference: **CML1649**

In your representation/objection please include an address to which correspondence may be sent.

Natural Resources Wales, acting on behalf of the Licensing Authority, will pass to the applicant a copy of any representation or objection received.

DEDDF Y MÔR A MYNEDIAD I'R ARFORDIR 2009
RHAN 4: TRWYDDEDU MOROL
CAIS AM DRWYDDED FOROL I WNEUD ATGYWEIRIADAU I AMDDIFFYNFEYDD MÔR YNG NGORSAF B ER ABERDDAWAN

Hysbysir drwy hyn, yn unol â Rhan 4 pennod 1 Adran 68 Deddf y Môr a Mynediad i'r Arfordir 2009, fod RWE GENERATION UK Plc wedi cyflwyno cais i Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru, sy'n gweithredu ar ran yr Awdurdod trwyddedu, am drwydded forol i WNEUD ATGYWEIRIADAU I AMDDIFFYNFEYDD MÔR YNG NGORSAF B ER ABERDDAWAN.

Gellir gweld y cais a'r cynlluniau sy'n dangos safle'r gwaith yn Llyfrgell y Sir, Y Barri, Sgwar y Brenin, Y Barri CF63 4RW.

Fel arall, gellir cael copïau o'r cais gan y Tîm Trwyddedu Morol, Canolfan Drwyddedu Caerdydd, Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru, T Cambria, 29 Heol Casnewydd, Caerdydd CF24 0TP. **Permittingconsultations@Naturalresources wales.gov.uk**

Dylid cyflwyno sylwadau neu wrthwynebiadau ysgrifenedig parthed y cais hwn i'r Tîm Trwyddedu Morol, Gwasanaeth Trwyddedu Caerdydd, T Cambria, 29 Heol Casnewydd, Caerdydd CF24 0TP, neu yrru e-bost at **marinelicensing@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk.**

Dylid cyflwyno sylwadau neu wrthwynebiadau cyn pen 28 diwrnod o ddyddiad y rhybudd hwn, gan ddyfynnu cyfeirnod: **CML1649**

Dylech gynnwys yn eich sylw/gwrthwynebiad gyfeiriad y gellir anfon gohebiaeth iddo.

Bydd Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru, gan weithredu ar ran yr Awdurdod Trwyddedu, yn trosglwyddo i'r ymgeisydd gopi o'r sylw neu wrthwynebiad a dderbynnir.

GEM ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

In Business Update

The very best solutions for your hearing needs

'Local services for local people'

MALMO Hearing is a family-run business, devoted to offering the best solution for your hearing needs.

Our main branch, open six days a week, is located in Bridgend town centre, and our highly-qualified and experienced audiologists are welcoming and friendly.

We offer FREE hearing assessments, FREE hearing aid demonstrations, Microsuction ear wax removal, hearing aid repairs and servicing.

We hold regular clinics throughout south Wales, including the following locations:

Cowbridge & Western Vale Group Practice: Cowbridge; Davies & Jones optometrists: Dinas Powys and Talbot Green; and Arbuthnot Opticians: Barry.

Other clinics include: Treorchy, Caerphilly, Blackwood, Pontypool and Newport.

Contact us on 01656 652444, or visit www.bridgend-hearing.co.uk for more information.

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- Comprehensive range of accessories
- Hearing Protection
- Microsuction Ear Wax Removal Service
- Professional & Highly Trained Audiologists
- Outstanding Customer Service & Aftercare
- Local clinics throughout South Wales

Call now for an appointment...
01656 652444

info@bridgend-hearing.co.uk
www.malmohearing.co.uk

Autumn a season of change at Samantha B in Ewenny...

AFTER the usual unreliable summer, you can rely on the autumn season to usher in a change.

Add a breath of fresh air to your autumn wardrobe with warm hues, add a splash of optimism with an accent colour, and bring neutrals to life. Team navy with lime, grey with pink and, of course, don't forget the classic monochrome!

This season brings comfort in reassuring styles, go for a layered look, maybe add a faux fur gilet, or this season's must-have, a long-line knitted gilet or coatigan with a pair of skinny jeans – a great look for any occasion.

Marble have pulled out all the stops this season, bringing us fantastic fitting jeans in a range of autumnal colours, such as lime and plum; team them with a beautiful matching jumper from the range and you are good to go.

Olsen and Bianca are renowned for quality and fit, perfect for combinability, and all pieces in their range are designed to be mixed for effortless dressing.

We are delighted to offer a wide range of coordinated separates; favourites include Adini, Poppy, Emreco, H&o, Tivoli, Brandtex, Signature Olsen, Bianca – and this season we are introducing a new label called Pont Neuf from Denmark.

We also have plenty of lovely day dresses available.

Call in and see for yourself and get 10 per cent off. We are also doing a fashion show to raise funds for United Free Church, Cowbridge on September 16. Please call if you'd like a ticket.

Samantha B
Ladies Fashions and Accessories

NEW STOCK NOW IN

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An expert's advice could avoid dispute

BRENDAN SWEENEY of David Prosser & Co Solicitors writes:

It is estimated that 60 per cent of the UK population do not have a Will.

A Will takes effect on your death and is an instruction as to what is to happen to your estate.

Probate disputes and challenges to Wills are becoming a growth area, which often leads to substantial costs.

We now live in a world where family relationships are often very complex and expert advice regarding the drafting of a Will is essential.

A professional advisor can also advise you in relation to inheritance tax and how you plan to minimise potential liabilities to inheritance tax

It is important when people make Wills that they are fully aware of their duties and financial responsibilities when they make a Will, and ensure that they comply with the technicalities that are required to have a valid Will.

The cost of a professionally-drafted Will, after taking advice, is considerably less than the costs that can be incurred if there is a dispute regarding your financial affairs after your death.

Substantial costs can also be saved by taking professional advice early, and putting in place Powers of Attorney, whereby you appoint trusted people to make decisions about your property and financial affairs and health and welfare, if your lose capacity.

The people appointed are made fully aware of their rights and responsibilities.

DAVID PROSSER & CO
SOLICITORS

Wills, Lasting Powers of Attorney, Probate and Estate Disputes & Administration

WE ARE A LOCAL, WELL ESTABLISHED LEGAL PRACTICE

We will:
- Be polite and professional
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- Offer home visits where necessary

Please contact Brendan Sweeney.

Telephone 01656 645921

E-Mail: brendansweeney@davidprosser.co.uk

3 Court Road, Bridgend CF31 1BL

David Prosser & Co is the trading name of DP Law Limited.

Line Dancing class with a difference!

DANCING is well recognised as an effective way of staying active and keeping fit, while enjoying a very pleasurable and social hobby.

Over the last 20 years, Line Dance has helped bring fun and welcome exercise to much of the population and today, still appeals to a wide age range. The Miskin class, however, offers something a little different!

There are just a few classes across the country which have specialised in their approach and they are often referred to as 'Latin-in-Line'. The Miskin class is one of them, where more emphasis is placed on the styling of the steps, together with the music of Latino artists, such as Enrique Iglesias.

This focus on Latin music appeals to many, and the easy-going teaching approach is a good starting point for a new enthusiast who wants to learn to dance.

The Latin group will shortly be running a taster class to explore the Cha Cha Cha and extends a welcome to all.

Enjoy learning some simple dance routines in good company. It's fun, and a great way to improve fitness as well!

CHA CHA CHA - IN - LINE 07753 413 266
12 week Class for COMPLETE BEGINNERS
No experience or partner required.
ALL HALLOWS RC Parish Hall
School Road MISKIN 5 min. from M4 (34)
Start: SUNDAY 11th SEPT 6.15 -7.15
LATIN LINE GROUP
IMPROVERS
7.30-9.00
Learn this popular dance, Make new friends, All welcome - Walk-in class £5, Keep fit & have fun ...IMPROVERS follow

GEM ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

In Business Update

Calling new walk leaders in Cowbridge

DO you enjoy walking? Would you like to do something for others and make new friends?

Valeways, the walking charity, is recruiting volunteer walk leaders for their new programme of Cowbridge Coffee Shop Strollers – designed to help people get out and about – good for the heart, health and company!

Walk leaders do just that – lead the way and ensure everyone's safe: "It involves an hour or so every fortnight. These walks are about a mile long," said co-ordinator Rebecca Exley.

"Valeways will fund your first aid training and be there to give advice and support. It's a really good way to meet people and extend your skills. Each walk ends with café refreshment – hence the name."

Interested? Call Rebecca on 01446 749000, or you are warmly welcome to join a 'taster session' at 2.30pm on September 7, meeting in the Cowbridge Physic Garden.

NEW

VALEWAYS

Cowbridge
COFFEE SHOP STROLLERS

Wednesday 7th September 2016

Meet in Cowbridge Physic Garden at 2:30pm.

For more information contact
info@valeways.org.uk
or call 01446 749000

NEWS IN BRIEF

Book signing

CARDIFF novelist, Louise Walsh will be signing copies of her new book *Black River* at Waterstones Bookshop, The Hayes, Cardiff, this evening (Thursday September 1) at 7pm.

Welsh actor Mark Lewis Jones will be reading a dramatic excerpt from the book, which centres around a Cardiff journalist Harry Roberts, haunted by his failure to cover the Aberfan disaster, which occurred on a rainy October day some 50 years before Louise was born.

Published by Carreg Gwalch at £7.50, Black River is Louise's second novel.

Barry at War

THE Wartime Weekend takes place over September 3 – 4 at Barry Island Station; Saturday from 10am – 5pm, and Sunday from 10am – 4pm.

Google 'Barry War Museum' to find the full programme of events.

Valeways walks

This Sunday (September 4), at 10am, 'Circumnavigating Barry Island', starting at Barry Island railway station.

Tuesday, September 6 at 10am, Crwydro Ynys Y Barry', Gorsaf Reilffordd, Ynys Y Barri.

Also on September 6, at 1.30pm, 'Woods and Castles', starting at the rear of Walston Castle pub, Wenvoe.

Wednesday, September 7, at 10.30am, the Barry coffee shop strollers meet at Romily Cafe, Cold Knap, Barry.

Also on September 7, at 2.30pm, the Cowbridge coffee shop strollers meet at the Physic Garden fountain, Cowbridge.

'You're the first person to call me all week' – Tom aged 83

Cold comfort for the old and lonely in the webcam world

SPECIAL REPORT by Andy Johnstone

IN the social media-savvy and webcam world of today, no-one is lonely...Anyone with even a moderately good-spec smartphone can be in touch with more people in more places around the world than ever before.

People are judged, and judge themselves, by the number of 'friends' on Facebook and acolytes on Twitter. The world is connected, and the 'six degrees of separation' is so last century. Now each person is just a click away from a friend and excitement.

THIS IS THE MYTH...

In reality – according to research carried out by OnePoll on behalf of homecare company Bluebird Care earlier in the summer – some 20 per cent of people in Wales, aged 65 or older, claimed to have spent a total of nearly one month a year without seeing anyone.

Tom (*not his real name, he does not want any one to know*) **agrees**.

Tom lives near the sea in the Vale of Glamorgan. He served in one of Britain's 'forgotten' wars: Korea.

He said: "Each month, I read about another old bloke, usually a soldier or a matelot or from the RAF, dying alone, with no kin near him.

"The [Royal British] Legion puts out a call for people to attend his funeral, but where were they in the months before he died?

"It's not their fault, and I am glad that he is remembered after his death, but what about before?"

Tom related how he and his wife retired to south Wales some 20 years ago.

"We lived on the south coast of England, a place often called 'God's Waiting Room, and we thought, 'We don't want to die there!'"

Tragically, Tom's wife, 'Peggy', died just three years after they moved to Wales.

"Our retirement together was lovely, but too short. Our children, two girls and a boy, moved all over Britain because of work and now they have their families.

"I don't blame them; it's a long way from Perthshire to Wales..." He trailed off, and then said "You're the first person to call me all week."

The online research, of 1,000 65-year-old men and women, was conducted in the run-up to the launch of the 'Every Visit Counts' campaign.

Echoing Tom, findings suggest that 22 per cent of respondents would not admit, even to someone they trust, that they are lonely.

"I go to the Legion, sometimes," said Tom. "A pint and a chinwag helps for a short while, though coming back to an empty house – it's worse in the summer when it's busy, when there are so many families around – can be awful."

'Women feel loneliness more than the men'

***'Lucy'**, who lives in a rural part of Bridgend, moved when a teenager, from Europe, to study in the UK.*

By coincidence, she submitted a letter to The GEM on the same subject last week, having watched an interview with Esther Rantzen on television about loneliness.

"Great Britain always seemed such a welcoming country with friendly people," she began. "and it has been.

"Watching it, I realised that I am one of these people, living on her own and not seeing anyone from one day to the next."

Lucy explained how bereft she felt when her husband died after years of marriage, and added: "Women feel this loneliness, the loneliness after a marriage and in later life, more than men."

Findings from Age UK in part back up this assertion. Some 11.4m people aged 65 or older live in the UK. Men account for 3.4m. Bluebird Care's research suggests that older women are twice as likely to spend the equivalent of at least two months alone each year (1.1m women compared to 200,000 men).

"Clubs, even the popular, well-known ones, are not for me," said Lucy.

She cited a lack of choice, a lack of publicity and a lack of public transport for her situation.

"Even in The GEM, there is little publicised. I do not drive and I do not like to be out when it is dark. A lack of public transport in my area means I stay at home for much of the time."

Whilst social media, including Facebook, may be popular with many – including the 'silver surfers' – it is not for Lucy, who said "I just don't know how it works."

Some years now since her husband died, perhaps a better future is on the horizon for Lucy. She takes part in charitable activities for people overseas, and says she '"counts her blessings".

"I am in touch with my two children very frequently.

"I know that one must make some effort and not just wait for new friends to turn up, and I do have lots of interests.

"Perhaps I have got used to the isolation now."

• ***For more information, readers can telephone 0800 169 2081, or contact: www.everyvisit.co.uk, www.ageuk.org.uk or***

Become a Vale volunteer!

THE Vale Council's countryside service is looking for more volunteers.

The team is particularly keen for assistance in managing the walled gardens, such as the walled gardens at Dunraven, at Southerndown, which recently saw a group of volunteers from Lloyds Bank help tidy the gardens. The team is also set to hit locations such as Cosmeston medieval village, Porthkerry Country Park, and the Barry Island beach huts, hoping to promote these volunteer days and actively welcome questions regarding how people can get involved with the team.

The Vale Council's countryside and environment team works on a wide range of tasks, including the management and maintenance of public rights of way, the conservation of the Glamorgan Heritage Coast, and the management of the Vale's environment.

To register as a volunteer, or to find out more, e-mail: countrysidevolunteer@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk.

Valeways 'Coffee Shop Strollers' get £1k boost

VALEWAYS, the Barry-based walking charity, has received a grant to help locals in the Vale and a new initiative being launched in Cowbridge at the start of September.

The Community Foundation in Wales has given £1,000 to Valeways to extend its Coffee Shop Strollers project in and around Cowbridge.

Designed especially for people looking that bit of encouragement to get out and about, similar schemes have proved a success in Cosmeston and Barry.

"Valeways' purpose is to promote walking and countryside access in the Vale," said volunteer co-ordinator, Rebecca Exley, "but a lot of people, including 'seniors', really want to go out walking – but have got out of the habit, sometimes lack the confidence or impetus – or simply don't want to walk on their own and are looking for the right companion.

"Thanks to the Community Foundation in Wales, we're inviting people to join the launch of Cowbridge Strollers on September 7, meeting in Cowbridge Physic Garden at 2.30pm. The walks are no more than 1 hour long and avoid hills and stiles.

"We've found, on pioneer schemes, that people make friends on these walks, learn something about the terrain they are walking and, crucially, it's good for heart, health and wellbeing.

"The walks typically finish with refreshments at a café and an opportunity to socialise – which is all part of the fun."

The walks are open to all and will take place every other Wednesday. For more information, contact info@valeways.org.uk or call 01446 749000.

Triathlon effort raises money for Headway

Andrew McCluskey with his friend Tom Taylor, at the Slateman Triathlon.

AN occupational therapist, who specialises in neuropsychiatry, recently took part in his first triathlon – to raise money for the Headway charity.

Andrew McCluskey took on the Slateman Triathlon and raised money for Headway, which works to improve life after brain surgery.

Nearly 1,500 triathletes took part in the Slateman event, in the village of Llanberis, at the foot of Snowdon.

Andrew, who works at Cardiff and Vale University Health Board, and and friend Tom Taylor, who also took part in the race, raised almost £1,000 between them for the charity.

Andrew said: "It was a real challenge to be part of, I did a one-kilometre swim in Llyn Padarn, then a 50km cycle around Snowdonia, which had amazing views – but a lot of hills – and an 11km run up from Llanberis and around the slate quarries.

"I finished in three hours and 28 minutes, which isn't too bad for my first triathlon! I'd like to thank everyone who kindly sponsored us and supported us along the way."

To find out more about the services that Headway provides visit: ***www.headway.org.uk/***

ST CLARE'S CELEBRATES 'EXCELLENT' GCSE RESULTS

Smiling faces at St Clare's School.

PUPILS and teachers at St Clare's School, Porthcawl are celebrating after another year of excellent GCSE results.

Eight-eight per cent of the pupils gained five or more A* to C grades, with 29 per cent of students gaining grade A*/A, and 74 per cent of students attaining a C grade or above in English and mathematics. In schools across Wales, the pass rate at A*-A was 19%.

Particular congratulations go to straight A pupils, Megan Greenwood (6 A* and 5 As) and Lance Burn (8 A* and 3 As), closely followed by Pavan Patel who achieved 2 A*, 8As and a B.

Headmaster, Simon Antwis, commented: "These results are fabulous and demonstrate that St Clare's pupils achieve outstanding results in an ever strengthening academic environment.

"We have had many jubilant faces this morning, whoops of elation and tears of relief."

He said that he was delighted at the success of the year-11 pupils: "To see so many pupils achieve A*/A grades in their subject choices is testament to how hard they have worked over the last two years and how dedicated our staff have been in ensuring that pupils are stretched to meet their full potential and exceed challenging targets."

Time for rebirth of 'Vale Cycling Forum'

AS someone who has cycled in the Vale and Cardiff, for work and for pleasure, for much of my life, I feel qualified to make a personal comment on the cycle/footpath debate.

When cycling to teach in Wenvoe in the 80s, I was known as the 'Blue Flash' by my colleagues. These days I am more of a 'Grey Cloud' and tend to stay off the roads as much as possible, finding new ways and places to appreciate the natural beauty around us.

I have always felt a little guilt because as a Vale councillor, when cycling from Wenvoe School to a site meeting as the link road was being built, I did not insist that a cycle/footpath be included in the scheme.

The need for such a link road cycle/footpath has never been more obvious than now, given the present proposed cycle/footpaths.

With all the additional housing, access roads and junctions, total gridlock has arrived and not just at rush hour.

It is now appearing through the day-time, affecting each local car journey. The 20-minute journey now takes an hour while people sit in traffic jams looking at the poorly-planned, over-engineered and largely empty cycle/footpaths.

The Waterfront developments will add thousands more car journeys to the routes from Barry, yet the new bus lanes are poorly laid out and have so few bus journeys on them.

There has never been a more urgent need to enable people to cycle, walk or use buses for work and for pleasure – as the 'Active Travel for Wales' scheme says.

Just like motorists, cyclists want to power up hills, enjoy the speed, wind and exhilaration of going fast downhill and cruise along clear roads with good views of the countryside, but cyclists only have leg power. Their bodies and bicycles are exposed and are easily damaged or destroyed.

I speak from experience, having received a fractured sternum, a double fracture to my cheekbone, several bicycles smashed up/damaged and many cuts/bruises from motor vehicles.

One of the first incidents was being smashed off my bicycle and sent over the bonnet of a Vale council officer's car as he pulled out.

Ironically, I was on my way to a council meeting! Having survived, I still enjoy cycling and still know how to roll when hitting the ground!

Cyclists travelling at 30/40mph will not use the paths through the Wenvoe Valley because passing through many exits and entrances at such speed could be fatal.

Though the paths are suitable for recreational cycling and walking, keen cyclists will not want to be jumping from path to road at high speed.

Lessons need to be learned from the recent constructions.

For example, the Port Road/Barry Island causeway paths, despite their great width, do not indicate where cyclists/pedestrians should be travelling.

The causeway scheme should send cyclists down the slope to the Old Harbour car park, with a new cycle/footpath alongside that car park, leading to the western entrance to the Island/beach.

The railway/road bridge can then be left to pedestrians.

It is this kind of detail which consultants and highway engineers, as non-cyclists, simply do not understand.

So now, after many years of waiting, we have the latest madcap schemes for cycle/footpaths from Barry to Dinas Powys, and to the A48, and lessons have not been learned.

To begin, because of their over-engineered proposals, the schemes will cost millions of pounds in public funds to buy various pieces of land off greedy landowners who do not have a philanthropic bone in their bodies.

The Five Mile Lane route from Weycock Cross to the A48 proposes cutting a 60mph road through the unspoiled countryside and blasting a wide swathe through the ancient woodlands of Barry's valley.

This beautiful valley and its ancient woods could easily be preserved if the new road were to go straight across to the airport roundabout at Welford.

The huge costs of this scheme, along with the millions suggested for the Biglis to Dinas Powys route are so high because they are over-engineered, designed by people who build roads and do not cycle.

As Coun Burnett has agreed, more than once, it is time for the rebirth of the Vale Cycling Forum.

Without consultation with cyclists and walkers, the very people who will use these facilities, we will continue to build badly connected and under-used paths to nowhere,

'Grey Cloud' aka Keith Stockdale, Barry.

Christine tackles diabetes challenge

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Christine explained: "Our family's life changed forever when Louise was first diagnosed with type-1 diabetes just before her 10th birthday. It is a serious condition that has to be managed constantly, by balancing insulin injections with food and exercise.

"But Louise has shown that anything is possible and has never let her condition stand in her way, even if it has been a challenge at times. She is now 28 and with the right preparation and support, she has achieved her goals, from finishing university to living abroad in Australia.

"From the start, we said that diabetes would not rule her, but that she would rule it – and she has always kept a positive attitude about the condition.

"This is why I'm taking part in the 'One Million Step Challenge' for Diabetes UK, so that I can stay fit and also raise awareness of Type-1 diabetes. I hope that the money raised from this challenge will help fund research to improve the lives of children and adults who have this condition."

"All sorts of steps – walking, skipping or dancing – count towards the total, and other activity can be converted into steps, too, so that people can find their own way to reach one million steps," said Joseph Cuff, Diabetes UK Cymru's fundraising manager. "We are delighted that Christine is taking on the Challenge for Diabetes UK, and look forward to following her progress. We hope Christine's commitment will inspire others to get moving for Diabetes UK.

"There is still plenty of time to get involved and our online tracker tool is a great way to see how you are progressing.

"Every penny raised will help us to support the millions of people living with diabetes in the UK, so please give generously to back Julie and support her amazing effort.

"Walking is a great way of keeping fit and active, and can help you to maintain a healthy weight, which is key to reducing your risk of developing type-2 diabetes. Getting plenty of exercise and eating healthily can also help people with diabetes to manage their condition well."

Visit www.diabetes.org.uk. To sponsor Christine, visit www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Christine-Bradshaw1.

St John Cymru Wales launches 'Save a Life in September'

ST JOHN Cymru Wales is launching its 'Save a Life September' campaign as part of a drive to raise awareness of the importance of first aid.

Throughout September, the charity will be delivering hundreds of free training sessions at schools, training centres and businesses across Wales.

The public will learn how to save a life using easy-to-follow techniques and receive a free pocket-sized first aid guide to keep on them in case of an emergency.

Keith Dunn, CEO St John Cymru Wales, commented: "We believe that no one should die because they needed first-aid and didn't get it.

"First aid is something that many people think about learning, or brushing up on, but they often don't realise the need for it until they are in an emergency situation.

"That's why our aim is to have a first-aider in every home in Wales. We want to reach as many people as possible, so that more people are equipped with the skills to save a life."

Anyone interested in learning first-aid can sign up for a free two-hour first-aid training session during September at www.stjohnwales.org.uk/savealife or call 0345 678 5646 for more information.

Sessions for Bridgend and the Vale are on September 17 at the St John Hall on Minerva Street in Bridgend at 9am, 11.30am and 3pm.

WHAT'S ON AND WHERE?

Free computer classes for seniors

FRIENDLY students of UWC Atlantic College are offering one-to-one tuition for older people interested in learning computer skills, including sending emails, creating word documents, surfing the net, online shopping... and anything else they would like to learn!

The classes will run on Tuesday afternoons from September 13 and Wednesday afternoons from September 14 at UWC Atlantic College, St Donat's Castle, Llantwit Major, CF61 1WF. Call Christine on 01446 799076.

Bikers' charity treasure hunt

A MOTORCYCLE/scooter treasure hunt for charity is being organised on Sunday, October 9 (10am start).

No entrance fee; a minimum of £30 sponsorship for the British Red Cross. Full details and sponsor forms from: AG Adams & Son Funeral Directors in Barry. Ask for Arthur Thompson, on 01446 735128 or 07753 929603; arthur.thompson@letsco-operate.com.

Nominate local 'young heroes'

THE public is being urged to honour local 'unsung heroes' by nominating them for the first ever British Citizen Youth Awards (BCYA).

BCYA co-founder Mike Faulkner is calling for Glamorgan GEM readers to help them find those under 16s from across the area who have helped the community, helped a local charity or undertaken exceptional activities in support of others.

He added: "There is no age limit for selfless acts of kindness, which is why we're launching an award designed to honour under-16s. Selfless people are the key to making our society and communities the special places that they are, and this includes many unsung heroes who are often responsible for amazing things but don't receive the praise they are due.

"We'd like to encourage people to help us give our amazing youngsters the credit they deserve. If you know a young person under the age of 16 who deserves to be recognised for their commitment to a good cause, then put them forward.

"Tell us who they are. We need the public's help to find our young hidden heroes."

Nominations close on September 16. Selected nominees will be presented with awards at the Palace of Westminster on October 18.

History beneath our feet – *the ghosts below!*

IN Gwynedd Pierce's *The Place Names of Dinas Powys Hundred,* entries such as The Hermytage (lost), Riddings Wood (lost), Felon's Way (lost) are frequent throughout the volume – places referred to in ancient documents but have vanished, apparently without trace, writes BRIAN KEITCH.

Some place names, such as Coed yr Hebog (Falcon's wood) in Penarth, are still very much there, but are no longer recognised as such by name (in cases because of urbanisation), but others – houses and farmsteads, which once housed whole families – were abandoned and over the years reduced to rubble, their identity surviving only in tithe maps or other documents.

It's a case of more history under our feet and, of course, the rich evidence provided by field names. Was Castle Field (lost) on the Hurst 1791 estate map of Llandough (by Cogan) some reference to the Roman villa discovered there in 1979?

In many cases of farmsteads and cottages, names refer to the family that once lived there all those generations ago, e.g. Phillip's Farm (lost). As people lived in these "lost" places, there will be artefacts – because there will be a rubbish dump attached. No site is worth ignoring because many a settlement goes back hundreds, possibly thousands, of years – including whole villages such as Cosmeston and Uchel Oleu (Highlight). Why quarry new stone if there is a ready supply from a ruin to build a new house or barn? That's why so many castles lie in ruin in our area.

Cowbridge

APART from the town and its surrounds, mounds, cuttings, some bridges and culverts stretching in lines across the Fro, remind us that once the iron horse rode across the fields.

Adverts in the Taff Vale Railway time table circa 1900 entice you to take a day by the sea: "Excursions to the Sea Side – return tickets at reduced fares will be issued to Cowbridge (for Llantwit Major), St Athan Road (for the Leys) and Aberthaw on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays." The fares? From Merthyr, Aberdare and Treherbert (old money first – 2/9, now 14p) to Cowbridge. To St Athan Road and Aberthaw railway stations, three shillings and threepence, or 16p today.

Sully

HALF-DAY excursions to Penarth and Sully were offered on Thursdays and Saturdays from the above places at three shillings or 15p return. The line to Aberthaw closed in 1930 for passengers and 1932 for goods. The last train to Sully ran in 1968.

If any readers are interested, I have film footage of the entire Penarth to Cadoxton branch in action just before closure and would be happy to show it at a suitable location.

Traces of these lost lines show up as pecked lines on the Ordnance Survey Landranger maps. Little remains of these lost railways today – though the station buildings at St Mary Church Road and St Athan Road stations amazingly remain in situ.

Porthkerry

THE real 'ghost line'; lasted but two years. The history beneath our feet reveals precious little of the Porthkerry Loop Line.

Just weeks after the Vale of Glamorgan railway line had opened to Barry, the new viaduct at Porthkerry was on the brink of falling down! Obviously it was closed for urgent repairs – in fact it was largely rebuilt – so some other way was required to keep traffic running. The answer? The Porthkerry Loop Line, some two miles and 44 chains in length. Trains were cleared to use the diversion as and from April 25, 1898.

The cuttings, eastward from Rhoose and a small section on the other side of the valley towards Barry, can still be traced. The trains crossed two roads and a farm track on level crossings controlled by a signal box, but no trace remains.

When the viaduct had been repaired and reopened for traffic again on April 9, 1900, the loop line disappeared back into the fields and sank into a bit of railway history long forgotten. Some foundations of the one timber bridge on the loop over the Whitelands Brook and bits of ballast, can still be recognised 116 years after the last chuffer gingerly made its way over the track at 10 miles per hour!

For those unaware of the dangers of trespassing on the railway, the loop line rejoined the main line at a place called Knock-man-down Wood!

St Athan

RAILWAYS are not alone in disappearing in the course of time. Ancient roadways have been by-passed and left to nature – the 'main road' to St Athan has quietly faded away, both east and west of the village, though one can still plod along the old road, unaware that the first motor cars were driven along this way.

Who knows what lurks on the roadside verges and walls of these disused communication routes (remember the bodies in the bushes/walls a few articles ago in this series?)

If someone goes missing these days, the police are on the search, but not back years ago. Folks just disappeared – into the roadside wall, in the fields, over the cliffs, maybe into a barrel of home brew to give it a bit more body (!), navy press gangs – who knows?

St Fagans

BATTLES, apparently on Stalling Down, Heol y Milwyr at St Bride's Major and the term Gadlys, all suggest a touch of violence.

On May 8, 1648, Major General Laugharne on the Royalist side in the English Civil War, with some 8,000 men, came against Colonel Horton's Roundheads on the Parliamentary side in the vicinity of St Fagan's.

The latter won the battle, with over 1,000 fatalities and some 3,000 taken prisoner. Under our feet must remain plenty of artefacts from this battle – not least human remains, ordnance etc.

On my sojourns in the Czech Republic, I ventured to Slavkov (Austerlitz) where Napoleon's army routed the Russian and Austrian armed forces in 1805. To this day artefacts are still being ploughed up. With all the castles, large or small that abound the Fro, it's hard to imagine that there was not a skirmish or two!

Margam and Cefn Cribwr

ON an equally tragic note, there were many other victims beneath our feet, this time the victims for the price of coal.

The Morfa Colliery on Margam Moors acquired the dubious title of the *Pit of Ghosts*. Extending well under the sea to provide the nearby Taibach works, the pit suffered no fewer than seven explosions – in June 1849, May 1850, December 1850, November 1858, October 1863 (when 39 men and boys were killed); February 1870 (which claimed the lives of 30 miners) and, worst of all, in March 1890, when the pit caused the death of another 87 men and boys. The mine was mercifully abandoned in 1914.

Not far away at Fountain near Cefn Cribbwr, disaster struck in 1892. It was the occasion of the great St Mary Hill Fair and many miners had swapped shifts to go there. At the fairground, the explosion at the Parc Slip Drift Mine was heard. Efforts to save the colliers were swift, but too late for 112 men and boys . The 'Parc' slipped into history in 1904.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 24)

CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG

GORCHYMYN (A4050 PORT ROAD A ST LYTHANS ROAD, GWENFÔ)

(CYFYNGIAD CYFLYMDER O 30 MYA A GWAHARDD TROI I'R DDE A THROI I'R CHWITH YN UNIG (DROS DRO) 2016

Ar 1 Medi 2016, gwnaeth Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, wrth arfer ei bwerau dan Adrannau 14(1) Deddf Rheoli Traffig Ffyrdd 1984 a'r holl bwerau galluogi eraill, Orchymyn a fydd yn gwneud yr hyn a ddisgrifir yn yr Atodlenni isod.

Daw'r Gorchymyn i rym ar 5 Medi 2016 neu ar y dyddiad y bydd yr Arwyddion Traffig mewn grym p'un bynnag sydd hwyraf, a gellir gweld copi o'r Gorchymyn yn y cyfeiriad isod yn ystod oriau swyddfa arferol.

Os ydych am gwestiynu dilysrwydd y Gorchymyn neu unrhyw rai o'i ddarpariaethau ar y sail nad ydynt yn unol â'r pwerau a ddyfarnwyd gan y Ddeddf uchod neu ar y sail nas cydymffurfiwyd ag unrhyw un o ofynion y Ddeddf, neu unrhyw offeryn a wnaed dan y Ddeddf mewn perthynas â'r Gorchymyn, gallwch, o fewn chwe wythnos o 5 Medi 2016, wneud cais i'r Uchel Lys at y diben hwn.

ATOLDEN 1

1. Ni fydd unrhyw berson yn gyrru neu adael i gerbyd deithio ar gyflymder sy'n fwy na 30 mya yn y lleoliad a nodir yn Atodlen 2 isod.

ATOLDEN 2

Lleoliad	St Lythans Road, rhwng ei gyffordd â A4050 Port Road ac Old Port Road Gwenfô
Rheswm	Galluogi gwaith hanfodol i wella diogelwch ar y ffordd ynghyd â gwaith cysylltiedig.
Hyd	O 06:00 ar ddydd Llun 5 Medi 2016, hyd at 18 mis, neu nes bydd yr Arwyddion Traffig 30 mya yn cael eu symud, pa bynnag un a ddaw yn gyntaf.

ATOLDEN 3

2. Ni fydd unrhyw berson yn gyrru neu adael i gerbyd deithio mewn modd sy'n torri'r cyfyngiadau a nodir yn Atodlen 4

ATOLDEN 4

Lleoliad	Dim Troi i'r Dde o Port Road, i mewn i Barc Manwerthu Croes Cwrlwys wrth grid 311832 174651,
Gwyriad	Tua'r gogledd, i'r gylchfan wrth Croes Cwrlwys, yna o gwmpas y gylchfan ac yn ôl ar Port Road a pharhau tua'r de ar hyd Port Road, a throi i'r chwith i mewn i'r Parc Manwerthu.
Lleoliad	Dim Troi i'r De o Barc Manwerthu Croes Cwrlwys wrth grid 311832 174651 i Port Road,
Gwyriad	Tua'r de, i'r gylchfan yn Brooklands Terrace, yna o gwmpas y gylchfan ac yn ôl ar Port Road a pharhau tua'r gogledd ar hyd Port Road (mae'n bosibl y caiff traffig ei ailgyfeirio heibio Cyffordd Brooklands Terrace i'r gylchfan yn Quarry Road lle y caiff ei gyfeirio i wneud "Troad U" yn ôl i lawr Port Road).
Lleoliad	Troi i'r Chwith yn unig o Brooklands Terrace i Port Road,
Gwyriad	Tua'r gogledd, i'r gylchfan yn Quarry Road, yna o gwmpas y gylchfan a theithio'n ôl i lawr Port Road a pharhau tua'r gogledd ar hyd Port Road, a throi i'r chwith i St Lythans Road neu barhau ar hyd Port Road.
Lleoliad	Troi i'r Chwith yn Unig o St Lythans Road i Port Road,
Gwyriad	Tua'r gogledd, i'r gylchfan wrth Croes Cwrlwys, yna o gwmpas y gylchfan a theithio'n ôl i lawr Port Road a pharhau tua'r de ar hyd Port Road, a throi i'r chwith i Brooklands Terrace neu barhau ar hyd Port Road.
Lleoliad	Dim Troi i'r Dde o Port Road i Brooklands Terrace,
Gwyriad	Tua'r gogledd, i'r gylchfan wrth Croes Cwrlwys, yna o gwmpas y gylchfan a theithio'n ôl i lawr Port Road a pharhau tua'r de ar hyd Port Road, a throi i'r chwith i Brooklands Terrace.
Lleoliad	Dim Troi i'r Dde o Port Road i St Lythans Road,
Gwyriad	Tua'r de, i'r gylchfan yn Quarry Road, yna o gwmpas y gylchfan ac yn ôl i Port Road gan barhau tua'r gogledd ar hyd Port Road, a throi i'r chwith i Port Road.
Rheswm	Galluogi gwaith gwella hanfodol ar y briffordd ynghyd â gwaith cysylltiedig.
Hyd	O 06:00 ar ddydd Llun 5 Medi 2016, hyd at 18 mis, neu nes bydd yr Arwyddion Traffig Dim Troi i'r Dde/Troi i'r Chwith yn Unig yn cael eu symud, pa bynnag un a ddaw yn gyntaf.

EMBARGO Y NADOLIG

Ni fydd unrhyw un o'r cyfyngiadau uchod mewn grym o ddydd Llun 5 Medi 2016 Tan ddydd Iau 6 Ionawr 2017

Dyddiedig 1 Medi 2016.

M. E. Punter,
Cyfarwyddwr yr Amgylchedd a Thai
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg
The Alps, Gwenfô. CF5 6AA.

The Vale of Glamorgan Council

(A4050 PORT ROAD AND ST LYTHANS ROAD, WENVOE) (30MPH SPEED RESTRICTION AND PROHIBITION OF RIGHT TURN AND LEFT TURN ONLY (TEMPORARY) ORDER 2016

On the 1st September 2016 the Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise of its powers under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and of all other enabling powers made an Order the general effect of which is as described in the Schedules below.

The Order will come into operation on the 5th September 2016 or on the date that the necessary Traffic Signs are in place whichever is the later and a copy of the Order may be seen at the address shown below during normal office hours.

If you wish to question the validity of the Order or any provisions contained therein on the grounds that they are not within the powers conferred by the above Act or on the grounds that any requirement of the same or that any instrument made under it has not been complied with in relation to the Order, you may within six weeks from the 5th September 2016 apply to the High Court for this purpose.

SCHEDULE 1

1. No person shall cause or permit a motor vehicle to travel at a speed greater than 30 mph in the location specified in Schedule 2 below.

SCHEDULE 2

Location	St Lythans Road, between its junctions with the A4050 Port Road and Old Port Road Wenvoe
Reason	To allow essential highway improvements to be undertaken, together with associated works.
Duration	From 06:00Hrs on Monday 5th September 2016, for a maximum period of 18 months, or until such time as the 30mph Traffic Signs are removed, whichever is the sooner.

SCHEDULE 3

2. No person shall cause or permit a vehicle to contravene the restrictions specified in Schedule 4

SCHEDULE 4

Location	No Right Turn from Port Road, into the Culverhouse Cross Retail Park at grid 311832 174651,
Diversion	Will be in a northerly direction, to the roundabout at Culverhouse Cross, then around the roundabout and back onto Port Road and continuing in a southerly direction along Port Road, then turning left into the retail Park.
Location	No Right Turn from the Culverhouse Cross Retail Park at grid 311832 174651 onto Port Road,
Diversion	Will be in a southerly direction, to the roundabout at Brooklands Terrace, then around the roundabout and back onto Port Road and continuing in a northerly direction along Port Road (it is possible that for a time the diverted traffic will be diverted on past the Brooklands Terrace Junction to the roundabout at Quarry Road, where it will be directed to "U Turn" back onto Port Road).
Location	Left Turn Only from Brooklands Terrace onto Port Road,
Diversion	Will be in a southerly direction, to the roundabout at Quarry Road, then around the roundabout and back onto Port Road and continuing in a northerly direction along Port Road, then turning left into St Lythans Road or continuing along Port Road.
Location	Left Turn Only from St Lythans Road onto Port Road,
Diversion	Will be in a northerly direction, to the roundabout at Culverhouse Cross, then around the roundabout and back onto Port Road and continuing in a southerly direction along Port Road, then turning left into Brooklands Terrace or continuing along Port Road.
Location	No Right Turn from Port Road into Brooklands Terrace,
Diversion	Will be in a northerly direction, to the roundabout at Culverhouse Cross, then around the roundabout and back onto Port Road and continuing in a southerly direction along Port Road, then turning left into Brooklands Terrace.
Location	No Right Turn from Port Road into St Lythans Road,
Diversion	Will be in a southerly direction, to the roundabout at Quarry Road, then around the roundabout and back onto Port Road and continuing in a northerly direction along Port Road, and turning left into Port Road.
Reason	To allow essential Highway improvements to be undertaken, together with associated works.
Duration	From 06:00Hrs on Monday 5th September 2016, for a maximum period of 18 months, or until such time as the No Right Turn / Left Turn Only Traffic Signs are removed, whichever is the sooner.

CHRISTMAS EMBARGO

None of the above restrictions shall be in place from Monday 5th December 2016, Until Thursday 6th January 2017

Dated this 1st day of September 2016

M. E. Punter,
Director of Environment & Housing
Vale of Glamorgan Council,
The Alps, Wenvoe. CF5 6AA.

Going for Gold! Hundreds of competitors turn up for the Llantwit Major 10k series

PHOTOGRAPHS by ANDY WICKS
Telephone 07855 374478

EVERYONE who finished the Llantwit Major 10k event last weekend received a medal. What was even more important was that many people raised sums for charities close to their hearts.

Andy Wicks was on hand to capture many of the day's key moments.

The Harry family ran in memory of Claire Harry who passed away on a family holiday recently. They would like to thank the local community for their wonderful support during this difficult time. They raised funds for Thrombosis UK.

History beneath our very feet!

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 23

And then there is river walking. Medieval mills were often burnt down and subsequently abandoned in local uprisings (bakers not being too popular at the time), but careful observation can reveal the mill race – the water course that supplied the driving force for the machinery.

In the case of such a mill in Porthkerry Park some years ago, an archaeological dig revealed the mill and a layer of black debris that suggested the building had been burnt down.

Some 'lost' windmills turn up as their circular foundations are discovered, such as those to be found at Marcross and Cog Road, Sully.

And then, there is a small matter of what went on in the caves around our coast, but that, as they say, is another story! Very many thanks to the assistance provided by the staff of Penarth Library in the presentation of this series.

Double boost for cancer patients at Singleton Hospital

Fundraisers Lorraine Treadwell and Anna Gabrieli, with Michelle Barrett, of Golau Cancer Foundation, the cancer centre's official charity, and chemotherapy day unit manager, Sue Rowland, in the new room.

PATIENTS receiving treatment in Swansea for cancer should benefit from two new developments to services offered at Singleton Hospital.

The hospital is home to the South West Wales Cancer Centre, which cares for patients from across the ABMU and Hywel Dda Health Board areas.

Staff are working with charities and fundraisers to launch initiatives aimed at supporting patients and their families through their cancer treatment.

Donations have enabled a room in the hospital's chemotherapy day unit to be refurbished and transformed into an area where patients can receive counselling and advice.

The furniture and fittings were bought through donations from Anna Gabrieli, who makes and sells bracelets featuring her distinctive guardian angels, and Lorraine Treadwell, who held a fundraising garden party.

The advice room, which opens on Monday, September 5, will be run in partnership with Tenovus Cancer Care and Macmillan Cancer Support, both of which will be providing the support and information to patients.

Day unit manager Sue Rowland said that the room was an important addition to the services currently available to patients.

Sue said: "All patients receiving treatment can use the services; they only need to let the nurses know and they can be given a time slot.

Lorraine added: "Having been a patient at the day unit, I can only give Sue's fantastic team the greatest thanks and praise.

"Their care, dedication and understanding had such an impact on me being able to deal with and manage an extremely frightening and uncertain time."

In addition to the room, patients preparing to receive radiotherapy are invited to attend new monthly open evenings at the radiotherapy department at Singleton.

The first will take place on Wednesday, September 7 at 6.30pm with regular sessions taking place on the first Wednesday of every month at the same time.

The open evenings have been organised and funded by Tenovus Cancer Care, which is already running similar events at other radiotherapy units in Wales, and are supported by Golau Cancer Foundation.

To find out more about the open evenings, contact 01792 205666, ext 37558.

Search for heart defects in the young returns to town

A charity is funding screening sessions to help prevent deaths from undiagnosed heart conditions.

Welsh Hearts - Calonnau Cymru has 130 spaces providing electrocardiogram (ECG) sessions at Cowbridge Town Hall on Saturday, September 17, from 9am to 4.30pm. Each screening lasts around 10 minutes and must be pre-booked online in advance.

Every year in the UK, thousands of people die from undiagnosed heart problems, including over 600 young people in Wales.

Founded in 2013, Welsh Hearts provides better access to lifesaving defibrillators, CPR training and heart screenings across Wales.

Sharon Owen, founder of Welsh Hearts, said: "These heart screenings really do save lives.

"Following five screenings across Wales twenty young individuals have been referred to a specialist and have been diagnosed with heart conditions including cardio-myopathy, a hole in heart and other heart related conditions.

"That's why we fundraise, to provide them."

The sessions are open to anyone aged between 12 and 35 years..

Sharon continued: "Many people associate heart problems with older people, but sadly, this is not the case. In Wales, we lose hundreds of young people to undiagnosed heart conditions each year."

An ECG, or electrocardiogram, is a pain-free, non-invasive screening that will identify most cardiac abnormalities helping the conditions to be managed and preventing unnecessary deaths.

Welsh rugby star Ian Gough recently became a patron for Welsh Hearts following his own heart scare last year.

The former Ospreys player was diagnosed with atrial fibrillation – an irregular and abnormally fast heart rate – following a heart screening in early 2016. The diagnosis allowed treatment so it can be managed in the future.

To book a heart screening with Welsh Hearts, visit www.welshearts.org/events or call 02920 647735 if you do not have online access.

Anwen, Rhiannon and Ieuan boost the Mayor's appeal...

TEATIME RECITAL RAISES £300 FOR BRIDGEND CIVIC CHARITY

ON a very wet and miserable Sunday afternoon, the Bridgend County Civic Charity, many committee members and friends, and Coun Reg Jenkins, the mayor, enjoyed tea at the Hi-Tide Inn, Porthcawl.

Food was delicious and abundant, and was served by well-trained and courteous staff. The entertainment was provided by Anwen Angharad, a talented, young local student. She is studying for a BA honours degree in performance at the University of Wales, Trinity St David's, and has performed on numerous occasions for the Civic Charity.

Anwen has also been accepted to study at California State University, Long Beach from January to April 2017 and is fundraising in the hope of gaining sponsorship towards her studies.

Her brother, Ieuan, was the compere who introduced all her songs and explained their history, while her mother Rhiannon Dixon accompanied her on the piano. The charity will benefit by more than £300.

The next Civic Charity event is a cheese-and-wine evening at 6.30pm on Wednesday, September 7, in Seasons Restaurant, Bridgend College – with special guests John Mason presenting 'Stories Worth Telling' and soloist Anwen Angharad

Admission is £10. For further information and booking, contact Mari on 01656 651 491 or Marlene on 01656 871 439. *MM*

Mandy 'Braves the Shave' for cancer charity

IMAGE by ANDY WICKS

DURING Llantwit Major's 'Party on the Pitch' event, Mandy Edwards, above, helped to raise funds for 'Brave The Shave' (Macmillan) and 'Giving To Pink' for a specialist breast care unit within the Cwm Taf Health Board area – by having a partial headshave.

The rest of Mandy's locks came off later at the Victoria Inn, Sigingstone, where more fund-raising took place.

Burglar's underpants were a dead giveaway!

THE NOVELTY PANTS THAT AROUSED SUSPICION...

BRIDGEND police are celebrating an unusual piece of detection – apprehending a burglar after recognising his underpants.

On August 30, at Cardiff Crown Court, Darren Machon received a 34-month prison sentence for the burglary of a house in Park Street, Bridgend, on February 23, and police recounted the chain of events that led to his court appearance.

A force spokesman said: "Machon, aged 39, was arrested for the burglary while he was in police custody, following a dramatic but separate incident.

"He was already wanted by police, having been recalled to prison, and on February 23, officers in Bridgend town centre spotted him in a lane behind Cheltenham Terrace, in the passenger seat of a silver Mondeo.

"They got out of their patrol car and tried to stop the vehicle but it was driven erratically, narrowly missing officers who had to dive out of the way to avoid being hit, and bumping into walls.

"The vehicle was driven along Nolton Street and was abandoned at the end of Merthyr Mawr Road, but Machon was caught soon after and taken into custody.

"As he was getting changed in his cell, an officer noticed his distinctive boxer shorts matched those described by a witness of a burglary earlier that same day. They were unmistakable and were described by a woman who had got within just a few feet of Machon as she caught him red handed, bent over, rummaging through her downstairs cupboards at approximately 6.40am.

"He growled at her as he ran past her and out of the house, but was later positively identified by the woman."

Detective Constable Darren Bowen, said: "I would like to commend the officers who put themselves in great danger as they tried to apprehend Darren Machon in Bridgend town centre on February, 23.

"The witness in this case, and also the officer who recognised the underpants, also deserve credit, as it was their vigilance and attention to detail which no doubt ensured that Darren Machon was linked to the burglary."

As well as burglary, Machon was also convicted of dangerous driving and sentenced at Cardiff Crown Court on Tuesday, August 30, where he was also disqualified from driving for 41 months.

Go to the **The GEM** for the latest stories and breaking news...
www.bridgend-today.co.uk
www.porthcawl-today.co.uk

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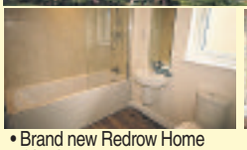

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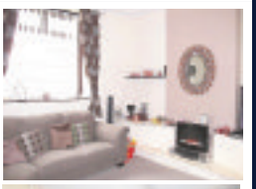

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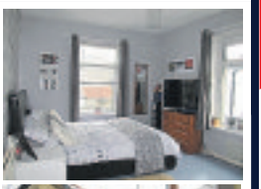

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Heroic pilot who won VC for shooting down Zeppelin over London: *PORTHCAWL, SEPTEMBER 1916*

ON September 2, 1916, 16 German airships approached London and having intercepted radio messages from the airships, 10 Home Defence squadrons took to the air.

Among them was Captain William Leefe Robinson, flying a converted BEc2 night fighter, which was carrying only enough fuel for three and a half hours. Seeking out the Zeppelins in the thick fog, as they wreaked havoc over London, Robinson eventually spotted the wooden framed Schutte-Lanz SL 11, commanded by Hauptmann Wilhelm Schramm.

Schramm had been born in Kent, as his father was the London representative of the Siemens electrical firm. At the age of 15 on the death of his father, his family returned to Germany where he joined the army.

Schramm had already taken part in earlier raids on the east coast, so was not inexperienced in the art of aerial combat. Such was the task that faced Robinson, who, sacrificing speed for accuracy, headed straight for the airship.

Despite being rocked by the huge explosive guns directed at him, he managed to fly alongside the airship and fire bullets along its side. Noting that the airship was unaffected, Robinson bravely repeated the exercise. Again to no avail.

Finally, with one round of ammunition left and little fuel, he courageously dived toward the massive twin rudders and raked the thinnest part of the craft. As the crowd watched from below, the SL 11 burst into flames and lit up the night sky. On landing, Robinson realized that the rear section of his plane had been damaged in the fight. Captain Leefe-Robinson was the first British pilot to shoot down a German airship over Britain during the First World War and also, the first to be awarded the Victoria Cross for action in the UK.

In April 1917, Captain Leefe-Robinson was taken prisoner after being shot down over France. He died of influenza on the last day of 1918, in his sister's home in Stanmore, Essex and is buried in the local churchyard.

News of the raid on London, and later that month on Sheffield (September 25), soon reached the provinces, which coincided with a heightened security alert. Consequently three Porthcawlians ended up being fined at Bridgend Magistrates Court for not 'having their lights obscured.' (*Porthcawl News September 22, 1916.*) Mr Fred Nicholls of The Pier Hotel was fined £2 for three windows facing the sea not having their blinds drawn, at five minutes past nine at night.

Mr Edward Lyons, a Coast Watcher explained that it had not been the first time that Mr Nicholls and his staff had been cautioned over the same matter. Mr Thomas Watkins, a grocer, was fined £1 for a similar offence; while Mr Evan Rees, grocer of Suffolk Place, on being similarly accused pleaded in his defence: "I forgot all about it. Please give me another chance." (*Porthcawl News, September 22, 1916.*) He was fined £1.

Two other Porthcawlians were fined 10 shillings over another breach of security. Under the terms of the Aliens Registration Act, aliens were required to be registered with the local police, providing details of their name, address, marital status and employment.

Both, Mr William Williams, proprietor of a Porthcawl boarding house and Mrs Mary Morgan, Rose Cottage, Newton failed to notify the authorities on the departure and destination of their 'alien' guests. It is uncertain from whence the ladies originated, but their names would have attracted concern: Esther Hyman and Andrias Johanna Alum.

The Battle of Flers-Courcelette, September 15 – 22, witnessed the first appearance of tanks in modern warfare. Initially, it was planned to launch the Allied attack with 49 tanks. However, 17 did not reach the frontline, and of the 32 available seven failed to start.

The remaining 25 tanks led the attack, with the infantry behind. Both Private Alfred Cook, 6 Railway Terrace, (Hillsboro Place today) and Captain Edgar Allen Boucher, whose parents lived at 5, Green Avenue, were killed on the first day of the battle.

Alfred Cook was born in 1896, one of six children, to Henry and Catherine Cook. Having attended the National School, Lias Road Alfred, for a short while, joined his father working for the Great Western Railway as a labourer in the station yard before being apprenticed with Mr J Hutchinson on the Porthcawl golf course.

It may well have been this new career that took him to the south coast, where he enlisted at Portsmouth into the 15th Battalion, Hampshire Regiment at Fratton Park during April 1915.

Captain William Leefe Robinson VC.

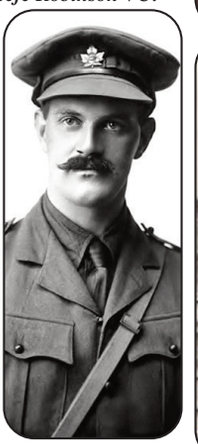
The 15th Battalion was involved in the first attack on Flers, at which it is believed Private Alfred Cook met his death. The huge number of casualties, and the wide use of shelling made maintaining a clear picture of the situation difficult. Tragically, as a result Private Cook's family were still appealing for news of Alfred's whereabouts in January 1917.

Two of Alfred's brothers, Private Sidney and Private Henry Cook, joined the 23rd Pioneer Battalion, Welsh Regiment at Porthcawl, which was serving in Salonika in September 1916. Alfred's other brother, Private Walter Cook, served with the Labour Corps, 12th Battalion Welsh Regt. All three survived the war, whereas Private Alfred Cook is remembered on the Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France.

Aged 20 years, Edgar Allen Boucher, one of six children was born in Maesteg to Thomas, an accountant and his wife Miriam, on April 9, 1886. Edgar attended Cowbridge Grammar School at the same time as another Maesteg boy. Captain George Devereux Scale, 10th Battalion Royal Welsh Fusiliers, whose parents moved to the Poplars, New Road, was also killed in the Somme campaign, on July 20, 1916.

On February 23, 1911 Edgar emigrated to Canada, where in 1914 he is discovered working for the Imperial Bank of Canada. He married Violet Berrington on 15th January, 1914 and they set up home at the Aberdeen Apartments, Calgary, Alberta. Enlisting on November 14, 1914, Edgar sailed with his unit, the 31st Battalion (Alberta) Canadian Expeditionary Force to Britain on May 17, 1915 aboard the *RMS Carpathia*.

They arrived on May 28 and following training at Salisbury Plain, the battalion embarked for France on September 15, 1915 where they were assigned to the 6th Canadian Infantry



Captain Edgar Allen Boucher.

Brigade, 2nd Canadian Division. Captain Boucher was killed on September 15 at Pozieres, on the first day of the Battle of Flers-Coucelette.

Captain Boucher's body was not recovered and is remembered on the Vimy Memorial, and on the grave of his parents in St John's Churchyard, Newton. Edgar's parents moved to 5, Green Avenue, Porthcawl, sometime after the war. Edgar's wife, Violet, who had given birth to a baby girl on December 24, 1915 never remarried and died in Calgary in1986.

Finally that September, Porthcawl's attention was on its intended bid to host the 1918 National Eisteddfod. The town had begun expressing its interest in 1914, but the bid took on a more formal dimension when the Bridgend Justices passed a resolution in support of Porthcawl's claim.

Not all Bridgend residents were as supportive, though, as one accused Porthcawl of being 'pushy' stating that 'Bridgend is a far, far better centre.' (*Glamorgan Gazette 22nd September 1916.*) Barry, also, proved a creditable competitor.

However, it was not to be. Unfortunately Porthcawl is still waiting to host the National Eisteddfod.

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Penarth Times	4,132	(Jan 2015 - Dec 2015)	Paid 50p
South Wales Echo	19,158	(Jan 2015 - June 2015)	Paid 65p
Western Mail	18,641	(Jan 2015 - Dec 2015)	Paid 80p
Glamorgan Gazette	9,094	(Jan 2015 - June 2015)	Paid 90p
Wales on Sunday	14,789	(Jan 2015 - Dec 2015)	Paid £1.50

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For further information and an application form contact the Council by visiting www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk or telephone Contact OneVale on 01446 700111 between 8am-5pm.

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Goods Vehicle Operator's Licence

Byron Colston trading as **Grabit Plant Hire** of **F Building, Atlantic Way, No. 2 Dock, Barry CF63 3RA** is applying to change an existing licence as follows:
To keep an extra **3** goods vehicles and **0** trailers at the operating centre at
F Building, Atlantic Way, No. 2 Dock Barry, CF63 3RA.

Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds, LS9 6NF, stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representors must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A Guide to Making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's office.

Anniversary

Congratulations
Bill & Joan Picton
On your Golden Wedding Anniversary on 3 September 2016.

Celebrating 50 Years
Hope you have a wonderful day

All our love always
Simon, Robert and Kate and grandchildren Elysia and Liam, Simone, Roni and Grace xxx

Congratulations

Congratulations

Anthony Lam
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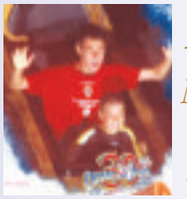
Adam Lam
on your A-Level results
and going on to study engineering.



Love from
Nan, Bamps and all the family xxx

Public Notice

LICENSING ACT 2003
Section 17 (5)
Notice of Application for a Premises Licence

NOTICE IS GIVE THAT an application has been made to Bridgend County Borough Council (the Licensing Authority) for a PREMISES LICENCE to permit licensable activities which it is proposed will be carried on, on or from the premises shown below.

Details of the application may be inspected between the hours of: Monday to Thursday 0830 to 1700 hours and Friday 0830 to 1630 hours at Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend, CF31 4WB or by visiting the authority's website: www.bridgend.gov.uk.

Any responsible authority or any other person may make representations in respect of the application, which must be submitted, in writing, to the following address before the date shown below: Licensing Section, Bridgend County Borough Council, Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend, CF31 4WB

NAME OF APPLICANT: **MOHAMMED BADRUL ISLAM**.
NAME AND POSTAL ADDRESS OF THE PREMISES:
118 COMMERCIAL STREET, MAESTEG, CF34 9DL

STATEMENT OF INTENDED LICENSABLE ACTIVITIES: 1. Entertainment namely recorded music from 17.00 to 00.00; 2. Sale and serving of hot food and drinks from 17.00 to 00.00; 3. Supply of alcohol 17.00 to 23.30 from Monday to Sunday.
DATE BY WHICH REPRESENTATIONS MUST BE MADE: **23 September 2016.**

This notice remains in force from and including the day after the giving of this notice to the licensing authority, namely Friday 26 August 2016, for 28 consecutive days. It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application. The maximum fine on summary conviction is £5,000. (1) This must include details of activities, type of entertainment and appropriate days and times.

Family Notices

GUMBLEY
Dr Marjorie Joyce (née Adams)

Peacefully, at Llandough Hospital on Saturday August 20, aged 91 years. Recently residing at Springbank Care Home, formerly of Howard Court, Barry. Wife of the late Denys, mother of Peter and Janet, mother-in-law of Tim and grandmother of Ian and David.

Resting at Park Funeral Directors until the funeral service on Tuesday September 6 at 12pm at St Helen's RC Church, Barry, followed by committal at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road, Barry at 1pm. No black attire. No flowers by request. Donations, if desired, may be sent to any animal charity of your choosing.

Grateful thanks for the loving care by staff at Springbank Care Home and Llandough Hospital West 1.

Acknowledgement

BRUCE
Allan

The family wishes to thank everyone who attended Allan's funeral and for all the kind messages.

Thanks to Sgt Lisa Millar and the RAF for making it a day he would have been very proud of and Andrew Thomas (Thomas Bros. Funeral Directors) and Rev Heather Weddell. Special thanks to Drs McGoven and Coleman, all the District Nurses and everyone at the Llantrisant Dialysis Unit for all the care given to Allan, and all at Sylvia Williams.

Your compassion and kindness helped us through a very difficult time.

Go to **The GEM** for the latest stories and breaking news...
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THEY came from near and far, the young, the older and the young-at-heart, the bodies beautiful and those simply comfortable in their own skin. They came to soak up the sun, to take in the views across Whitmore Bay and to make the most of the summer before the Bank Holiday. Impromptu games of football with jumpers for goalposts or just sitting back chillaxing, it was time to be with friends and family and enjoy an ice cream or two, and all without leaving the country.

Wales legend Lee puts rugby youngsters through their paces

HUNDREDS of children and young people from across south Wales enjoyed a feast of rugby at a unique camp with former Wales and British Lions' legend, Lee Byrne.

The three-day event, in partnership with Vale Sports Arena, PG10 Coaching and Adventure Camp Wales took place at the Vale Sports Arena in Penarth.

The event offered each child aged between six-16-years-old opportunities to be coached by Wales legend Lee Bryne and other top coaches. Children also had the unique experience of being coached by a host of Wales legends and Team GB rugby sevens stars.

Wales' record try scorer and former IRB world player of the year Shane Williams MBE took the children through there paces with technical sessions and inspired them with a Q&A session talking about his career.

Former Welsh international Ian Gough also attended the camp taking the children through different skills and techniques. The 64 capped international delivered sessions on forward play and tackling to aid children of al ages development.

Fresh from the Olympic Games in Rio, GB star Jasmine Joyce also attended the camp inspiring the children and young people and taking part in a host of sessions showing the children different techniques and top tips on how to get to the top of the game.

The next Lee Byrne rugby camp is during October half-term on October 24 with the Lee Byrne Wales legends camp on October 25.

To secure your booking, email byrney15rugby@hotmail.com (there are limited spaces on the course and bookings must done before the event).

PG

Barry Athletic see promotion hopes dashed

ON Saturday Barry Athletic first XI travelled to Malpas to take on the top side, still with a chance of promotion.

They won the toss and asked their hosts to bat first on a humid cloudy afternoon and soon had Malpas 41 for 3 after 22 overs as Hellyar, Griffett and Baker removed Ward, Baker and Griffiths respectively.

This brought Lewis Morgan to the wicket and added 93 with Ross Ward before Ward was LBW to Simon Phillips for 26. Mason then joined Morgan and added 68 before Morgan was out bowled Ferriday for 103. Malpas then lost their last five wickets for 34 runs as Paul Murphy picked up 3 for 63; the main bowlers were Griffett (1 for 21 in his 10 overs) and Hellyar (1 for 17 in his 10 overs) as Malpas were bowled out for 236.

In reply Barry got of to a bad start as they lost Murphy (5) and Jones (9) with just 26 on the board. White and Ashley Baker then added 48 before they suffered a collapse of mammoth proportions as their last seven wickets fell for 61 runs in 13 overs, with only Nathan Baker getting double figures as Barry were bowled out for 125.

Promotion is now no longer on the table, but they do still have the chance with two games to go that if they get two wins they will have beaten every side in the division.

Barry's second XI entertained Malpas second XI at the Island on Saturday, won the toss and asked their opponents to bat first, and they racked up a score of 299 in their 45 overs with A.N Other (4 for 65) and Nicky Jones (3 for 33) being the main wicket takers with Simmonds (126) and Archer (97) being the main run scorers.

In reply Barry opened with Lee Morgan and Rhys Howell as they put on 95 for the first wicket in 31 overs before Howell was out for 22.

Morgan scored 75 and a fine 53 not out by Craig Brock saw Barry reach 200 for 3 and maximum batting points, thus keeping their Division 2 status for next season.

On Sunday Barry travelled the short distance to Dinas Powys to play a rearranged game.

Captain Ashley Baker won the toss and asked Dinas Powys to bat first, and they reached 171 all out from their 40 overs with Nicky Morgan (4 for 46) and Andy Ellis (2 for 34) being the main wicket takers.

In reply Barry were 150 for 9 in their 40 overs with a fine 43 not out from Simon Phillips, 28 from Reji and 14 from Ashley Baker, and another eight points gained.

This week Barry Athletic first XI travel the short distance to Cardiff to play Cardiff Gymkhana with the second XI entertaining the same opposition at home, and on Saturday, September 10, Barry Athletic first XI play their final league game when they entertain Brecon at Barry Island in a rearranged game.

MR

Millwood Bowls Club news

ON Wednesday evening this year's Munro Cup competition drew to a close as we welcomed our friends from Dinas Powys for the final fixture this season which had been re-arranged from early season as the original fixture clashed with our visitors highly successful Welsh Open Bowls Week.

Both sides due to late withdrawals played man short. After five ends Millwood sneaked in to a narrow four shot lead, 18-14.

After 10 ends, on three of the four rinks, the visitors had turned the score in their favour, 29-22, however the night was going to turn out not to be his and his rinks, as after 10 ends they were struggling - 16-3 down and try as Hugh might the night was not going to get any better.

The other rinks remained evenly matched with each side winning two rinks at the end of the evening with Millwood running out overall winners, 77-46; despite the evening's tribulations players on both teams enjoyed themselves and look forward to next year's fixture.

On Saturday, both the club and A side were in action with the club side at home to Treharris in a Division 4 fixture. Unfortunately the visitors were hit by some late withdrawals, however they are to be sincerely thanked for making the effort to honour the fixture.

The game got under way and after five ends the home side were trailing 10-23 and after a further five keenly contested ends the home side still trailed 27-35.

However, with the gap narrowing, the home side rolled up their proverbial sleeves and slowly but surely over the last few ends clawed the deficit back, and although both sides won on two rinks each, Millwood took the overall victory by 74-58, in the process taking 10 of the 14 points on offer.

Meanwhile, the A side were making the short journey to Rumney for a Division 7 fixture for what was the fourth fixture between the sides this summer.

After five ends Millwood found themselves trailing 17-13; digging themselves in for the long haul, at the end of 10 ends the gap had narrowed to 35-32 in favour of the home side.

Continuing with this magnificent effort, at the 15th end Millwood had turned the deficit totally around to lead by 59-49 and keeping this effort going ran out winners, 74-70.

With the season drawing to a close, the last week of the season is packed with fixtures and players who have been selected for the various games are asked to do their best to honour their commitments letting their respective captains know as soon as possible of any problems.

BH

Wales RL under-16s dominate Ireland

WALES under-16s ended their busy programme by beating Ireland 56-0 in Ashbourne with a dominant display of rugby league.

Ireland, who were playing their first ever international match at this level, held Wales for the first ten minutes, with both sides having strong defences cancelling out any early tries.

Then Wales broke the deadlock as full back Karlin Claridge scored out wide, the try was unconverted. Within minutes, hooker Ben Lloyd-Hunter sniped under the sticks to double the scores.

After another attack Lloyd-Hunter again found himself in another position to power over from short range, the kick this time was converted by Taylor Phillips to make the score 14-0.

Good pressure from the Welsh attack pinned the Irish in their own 20 resulting in two quick fire tries, one from Lewis Hall which Phillips converted and Taine Hendy going over on the opposite side from a great kick chase.

From another excellent kick return, the Welsh side found an edge with North Wales winger Morgan Johnson going over in the corner. The kick was unconverted leaving the half-time score at Ireland 0, Wales 28.

The second half started as of the first with a stalemate in the first ten minutes, but the deadlock was broken when powerhouse prop Ellis Brown went in under the sticks, Phillips adding the two.

This spurred Wales on to take advantage of the tiring Irish defence with captain James Bartlett scoring under the posts, Phillips converting again.

A great move down the right flank allowed centre Lewis Hall to go in for his second of the game, and shortly after his Warrington team mate James Machin added a further four points and Hall converting.

With 10 minutes remaining Claridge received his own kick chase to dive over for the final try of the game, Morgan Johnson adding the conversion.

Wales Rugby League's performance manager Jon Ellis said: "The staff have pulled together a fantastic programme this year at short notice, Wayne Ponting and Andrew Thorne have worked well in gelling the team together and getting the best from the players, and manager Peter Tiffin has done an exceptional job in coordinating the fixtures and working closely with an array of rugby league sides. It's been a rewarding programme for both players and staff."

IG

Darts season about to begin!

THE 2016-2017 season of the Cowbridge Darts League is about to begin.

This year we have10 teams competing, hosted by seven pubs.

The venues are: Edmondes Arms, Cowbridge; Farmers Arms, Aberthin; Llanharry Working Men's Club, Llanharry; Highwayman Inn, Nurston; Six Bells Inn, Penmark and new hosts this season the Red Lion, Bonvilston (hosting the team that last season played from the Old Post) and the Victoria Inn, Sigingstone (hosting a team new to the Cowbridge Darts League).

The opening league matches will be played on Tuesday, September 6.

Last season's champions, the Edmondes B, have a tough opening fixture as they host last year's runners-up, the Highwayman Inn. The new team this season The Victoria Inn have a challenging opening match hosting the Edmondes A.

The Farmers Arms hosts Llanharry, the Red Lion hosts the Edmondes C, and to complete the full fixture list the Six Bells Inn hosts the Farmers B.

All matches start at 8.15pm and spectators are always welcome. For further information e-mail Paul at cowbridgedarts@gmail .com, up-to-date information can be found on the website: www.darts.apsn.co.uk.

PJT

Tennis coaching for local juniors

A new six week coaching course for juniors will be held at Barry Athletic Tennis Club, starting on Sunday, September 4.

Ages four-eight at 10am -10.55am, ages eight-12 at 11am-11.55am, and over-12s at 12 noon-12.55pm; the course will be delivered by coaches from Tennis Squad.

AH

10-mile run for charity

RUNNERS are being invited to take part in a 10-mile charity run at Merthyr Mawr sand dunes on Saturday, October 8 led by Steve Wall, a professional trainer, to raise funds for Guide Dogs Cymru.

A spokeswoman said: "It's a self-supported run in terms of nutrition and fluids, but there will be advice on hand from Steve. The event is a trail run, so appropriate clothing and footwear are advisable.

"No-one will be left behind using the tap back method. Front runners will tap back to the back, so that everyone starts and finishes together."

Among them will be Lee Gibbons, who is running next year's London Marathon in aid of Guide Dogs Cymru: "My aunt and her friend are registered blind, so I grew up knowing the important job that guide dogs do. I have very fond memories of playing with the dogs and being fascinated by them when they worked," he said.

Runners are asked to meet in Merthyr Mawr sand dunes car park at 6am with a suggested donation of £10, or pledge via www.justgiving.com/fund raising/Lee-Gibbons2.

Bridge results

RESULTS from the Vale of Glamorgan bridge club for the last two weeks:

August 22: 1st Alan Lewis & Terry Evans 63.19%, 2nd Mary Lougher & Joan Bird 63.10%, 3rd Liam Sheridan & Glenda Roberts 62.50%.

August 29: 1st Barrie Waite & Graham Norris 63.35%, 2nd Dave & Debbie Lea 62.78%, 3rd Simon & Debbie Richards 59.66%.

LE

No rest for the Rhoose Lifeguards!

AUGUST has been a busy month for the teams from Rhoose Lifeguards.

Over the last few weeks all of the age groups have competed at the SLSGB Championships as well as a number of the team representing Wales at the England vs Wales Surf Lifesaving International event.

Starting off with events on August 6 and lasting two days, a small team of Masters began their campaign at the National Masters Championships at Exmouth beach.

With great weather throughout the team kept up the momentum during the events with Dominic coming away with a 'British Champion' gold medal in the beach flags event and Sarah gaining a bronze in the surf ski race and silver in 1km race.

With a small team the Masters finished their competition in 18th place.

A few days after, the Youth Championships kicked off again at Exmouth. Keen to build on their successes from the Welsh Championships just over a week before the youth team, managed by Steve and Sarah, put in some impressive displays with Kelsea and Millie winning 'British Champion' gold medals in their individual events.

A number of silver and bronze medals were also won by Alex, Kelsea, Ellie and Morgan in their individual events as well as medals being awarded in the pair and team events.

The team finished in a very respectable seventh place out of the 28th teams taking part.

Lastly the Nippers team brought a week of competing to a close with their Championships taking place on August 12/13.

With a team of 19 competitors led by Liz, aided by her team of coaches, the Nippers again showed great skill and energy throughout the two days, enjoying lots of sunshine also. 'British Champion' gold medals were awarded to Ava, Evie (Wong), Evie (Watkins) and Connie. Silver and bronze medals were awarded to Ava and Aled for their individual events.

The Nippers team finished in 13th place out of the 32 teams taking part.

Not long after the GB Championships Rhoose members Kelsea, Karen, Alex, Jack, Ellie, Millie, Brooke, Jason and Declan were back on their travels this time to Portreath representing Wales at the England vs Wales Surf Lifesaving International event.

With a high standard of competition throughout the day the Rhoose team members performed excellently gaining valuable points for the Wales team.

Following the England vs Wales event a number of the group stayed in Portreath to compete for Rhoose Lifeguards again, this time at the SLSGB Open Championships.

With storm conditions and very large waves forecast, the competition proved a huge challenge for the competitors. Those competing in the sea events; board, swim or surf ski were met with very challenging conditions but the Rhoose team showed great spirit (and bravery!) to take on the surf.

Well done to Kelsea, Ellie and Karen for winning gold in the surf ski relay.

The Open team finished the competition in 10th place overall.

Many congratulations to all those who have competed for the club and for Wales and, as always, thanks to everyone for their time and effort in attending these events. **JF**

New Tae Kwon Do club is opened by champion Lee!

CHIEF instructor Jaime Halford, 4th degree black belt, fellow instructor Bradley Halford, 3rd degree, Matthew Bennett and Keita Enfield, 2nd degree, are proud to report the grand opening of the Rising Dragon club, which took place in July.

Firstly the instructors would like to take this opportunity to thank Joanne and Paul Halford and Melony Bennett for their help and hard work to help open the club.

Also a special thanks to the club sponsor Lee Cunningham from LNC Floor Coverings Ltd and Stuart James of Studio 14 for the logo design, Anthea and Rob King for a donation and last but not least the parents and children for their dedication and helping get the club off the ground.

Also a special mention for Lee Selby, IBF featherweight champion, who took the time to officially open the club.

Current students range from four years old to the older generation and sessions are run at Victoria Park Community Centre at the rear of Cadoxton School.

For further details, contact Joanne on 07921 915559 or email risingdragonstkd@outlook.com. **AC**

Popular ladies open attracts large entries

Wenvoe Castle Golf Club captain Paul Coombs (left) with winners Rob and Lynda Campbell.

AFTER almost torrential conditions the previous weekend, the sunshine returned in time for what was a very busy programme of competitions over the Bank Holiday weekend.

On Friday, the popular Ladies Open attracted a large number of entries. The team format played is always enjoyable allowing, for the individual player to overcome the occasional wayward shot or missed putt.

As usual the benefit of home advantage is recognised with special prizes for visiting teams.

The course was in fine condition, which reflected the excellent scores and the winning visiting team were Brenda Tomcyck (Radyr), Carolyn McKenzie (MoD St Athan) and Cheryl Henderson with 74 points.

The runners-up – and just missing out on countback – were Lynda McCarthy (Kenilworth), Pam Williams (Royal Porthcawl) and Sheila Morrow, also with 74 points.

The same score was posted by prize winners for Wenvoe Castle members Pat Jarvis, Delyth Thomas and Nicola Sims. Runners up were Helen Hughes, Barbara Beedham and Nicola Sims with 65 points.

Special prizes for nearest the pin were won by Carolyn McKenzie (MoD St Athan) at 16 feet 10 inches, on the second green and Sarah Chapman (Radyr), 14 feet 10 inches, on the 15th green. Despite the high number of entries, there were just one two recorded, and Lynda McCarthy topped up her team prizes with four dozen golf balls.

On Saturday, there were more than 100 entries for the traditional 'Dai David Putter.'

Billy Harrington, playing off 9 handicap, won by a considerable margin with an exceptional gross score 74 (net 65). Dennis Warren just held off Del Lewis, both of whom recorded low scores of net 68.

Bank Holiday Monday was the scene of the one of the highest entries for a mixed competition for several years. They were rewarded with very sunny conditions and a course in magnificent condition.

The first three places all recorded the same score of 39 points and countback worked overtime. Coming out on top, and winners of the Morgan Williams Bowl, were Rob and Lynda Campbell, who were just ahead of Brian and Judy Green with Jeff and Lynda Hudd in third place.

Once again, twos were hard to come by with just one recorded by Joff Williams and Barbara Beedham.

Club captain Paul Coombs thanked all those who entered, creating a great atmosphere for a presentation on the panoramic patio on a warm summer's evening.

Special mention was made of the work of the green staff, using the new course machinery, presenting the course in such a fine condition over a sustained busy period.

BARRIE JONES

For the latest stories and breaking news, follow our sports Twitter page... @sport_gem

Clive finishes top of the pile at Cradoc Golf Club

CRADOC Golf Course situated north of Brecon and just a few miles from the birthplace of Geraint Davies, president and captain of the Glamorgan Farmers' Golf Society, proved a welcoming venue last Thursday for the society's monthly meeting.

With the golf course noted for its natural surroundings, abundance of wildlife and mature tree lined fairways plus the occasional water hazard golfers of all abilities are offered a challenging yet entertaining test of golf.

Generously sponsored by Llantwit Major estate agents Anthony Brown & Co, 34 competitors set off on what is a beautiful course set in stunning countryside all hoping to win the Anthony Brown Cup.

At the end of an afternoon's wonderful entertainment just one point separated the top four competitors.

Llantwit Major farmer Clive Thomas, having gone over 12 months without a visit to the winners' enclosure and who recently took a life changing decision to get back to winning ways certainly reaped the benefit of abandoning his calorie controlled diet to finish top of the leaderboard with 35 stableford points.

Glyn Watts-Jones also with 35 points but an inferior back nine finished runner-up. Tim Jarvis with 34 points finished in third place just ahead of Godfrey Lewis who also had 34 points.

The sponsor of the day, Mr Anthony Brown, won the visitors section with a very impressive 38 points followed by David Sloan with 35 points.

Nearest the pin on the Watts & Morgan sponsored par-3 holes were Godfrey Lewis, Geraint Davies and Lynn Thomas with sponsors representative Ian Morris hitting the longest drive down the selected 18th fairway to collect the Bear Hotel, Cowbridge longest drive prize.

Julian Golunski correctly guessed 25 balls would remain in the neighbouring county to collect the 'Premier Turf' sponsored bottle of whisky which raised £66 for the Llantwit Major Lifeguards.

Members are now looking forward to their annual three day competition played over 54 holes competing for the David Evans [Agriculture] Ltd trophy which this year will be held at Westward Ho and Saunton Sands in north Devon.

This will be followed with a visit to the Rhondda Golf club on September 29 when members will compete for the Arthur John & Co Cup kindly sponsored by popular member Mr Dai John.

T.McC

Winning golfers Glyn Watts-Jones, Tim Jarvis, sponsor Anthony Brown, Clive Thomas and Godfrey Lewis.

Barrivale Bridge Club

LATEST results from Barrivale Bridge Club Individual Tournament for August 23:

1st Mike Close 65.63%; 2nd Jane Brook 59.90%; 3rd Alan Jones 59.03%. Dave Reed won on handicap.

New members are always welcome at Barrivale. A partner may be arranged if required.

If you would like to join us ring 01446 418380 or 01446 733425 or 01446 735592 call at the Pioneer Hall, Beryl Road, Barry on Tuesdays at 7pm.

Alternatively players, inexperienced or new, may attend on Fridays at 10am at the same address. ***DR***

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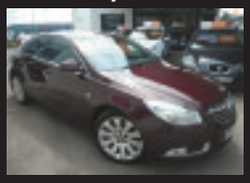

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06 RANGE ROVER 3.0 Vogue Diesel Auto In met-blue with grey leather, lots of extras **£9,995**

13 KIA CEED 2 1.6 CRDi Auto In silver, 34,000 mile diesel hatch **£8,995**

62 VAUXHALL Insignia 2.0 Diesel SE Nav Automatic In very berry with black trim, 57,000 miles **£8,995**

62 TOYOTA Auris Icon 1.6 Automatic In met red, 10,000 miles, under Toyota Warranty **£8,995**

12 PEUGEOT 508 Allure 2.0 Diesel In Iseo Blue, 47,000 miles with Bluetooth, heated seats etc..**£8,995**

12 MINI Cooper 1.6 In white silver with black roof, 23,000 miles. Very nice example **£8,995**

14 RENAULT Clio Dynamique MEDIA NAV ENERGY DCi 1.5 In Silver with Bluetooth, sat nav, alloys etc, free road tax, only 39,000 miles, 1 owner **£8,695**

13 CITROEN DS3 Style 1.6 3-Dr Hatchback In white, 23,000 miles, alloys, cruise control etc **£8,495**

10 AUDI A3 2.0 TDi Sport 5-Dr In black, 82,000 miles, £30 road tax, Fantastic value **£7,995**

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58 MERCEDES CLC 200 CDi Diesel Coupe Automatic In Silver, heated leather seats etc with only 53,000 miles **£7,995**

64 FORD Fiesta 1.2 Zetec 3-Dr In black, 27,000 miles, 1 owner **£7,495**

62 SUZUKI Swift Sport 1.6 In met-red, 24,000 miles, 1 owner, very sporty.....**£7,495**

60 MERCEDES B160 Blue Efficiency Sport MPV AMG. Alloys, Bluetooth, Half Leather Trim. **£7,495**

64 RENAULT Zoe Dynamique Intens 5-Dr Automatic In white, 10,000 miles, 1 owner, electric hatch .....**REDUCED BY £500 TO £6,995**

62 SEAT Ibiza 1.2 TSi SE 5-Dr Automatic In silver, only 13,000 miles **£6,995**

12 FORD Focus 1.6 Titanium 5-Dr In silver, 70,000 miles, nice example **£6,995**

59 MINI Cooper 1.6 Convertible In pure silver, 68,000 miles with over £2,500 of extras.....**£6,995**

63 FIAT 500 1.2 S In red, 21,000 miles, £30 road tax **£6,795**

13 VAUXHALL Adam 1.4 Slam In yellow and black, 1 owner, a/c, alloys etc **£6,795**

10 VOLVO C30 R-Design 2.0 Diesel In met grey, 68,000 mile coupe **£6,795**

61 RENAULT Megane Coupe 1.5 Diesel Dynamique Tom-Tom Automatic In met grey, 50,000 miles **£6,795**

61 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.4SE Automatic In met blue, 37,000 miles **£6,495**

11 RENAULT Megane G.T Line 1.4 TomTom TCE 5-Dr In met blue, Sat Nav, A/C etc **£6,495**

58 MAZDA CX7 2.3 In met grey with black leather, 44,000 miles, superb example **£6,495**

58 MINI Cooper In met green/white roof, 38,000 miles, 1 owner, A/C etc.....**£6,495**

12 FORD Fiesta 1.2 Zetec 3-Dr In silver, 34,000 miles, alloys, A/C etc **£5,995**

62 VAUXHALL Astra 1.7 CDTi Active 5-Dr In graphite grey, 78,000 mile, diesel **£5,995**

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13 VOLKSWAGON UP 1.0 Black Edition 51,000 miles, high spec, low running costs **£5,995**

62 FIAT Punto 1.4 Lounge 3-Dr In bagatti blue, 41,000 miles, with glass roof, alloys etc.....**£5,995**

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11 TOYOTA Yaris 1.3 VVTi T-Spirit 5-Dr In met-grey, 63,000 miles, high spec **£5,495**

09 FORD Fiesta 1.4 Titanium 3-Dr Automatic In hot magenta, 53,000 miles **£5,495**

11 MAZDA 2 Sport 1.5 3-Dr In spirited green, 74,000 miles, very nice throughout.....**£4,995**

60 PEUGEOT 308 1.6 HDi Sport 5-Dr In electric blue, 52,000 miles, Diesel hatch.....**£4,995**

59 HONDA Jazz 1.4 V-Tec Ex In electric blue, with panoramic roof ..... **REDUCED TO £3,995**

61 HYUNDAI i10 Active 1.2 5-Dr In met grey, 48,000 miles, A/C etc **£4,395**

58 FORD Fiesta 1.2 Zetec (New Shape) 3-Dr In black, very nice example at **£3,995**

58 SKODA Fabia 2 HTP 1.2 5-Dr. Met Grey, 50,000 miles, nice example..... **£3,795**

11 SUZUKI Alto SZ3 1.0 5-Dr In red, 47,000 miles, low running costs, plus £20 road tax **£3,695**

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Anglers (ALL 91 OF THEM!) brave the elements at Llantwit Major Charity Open

Jade Owen.

SUNDAY, August 21 saw the return of the fourth annual Llantwit Major Charity Fishing Open, raising much-needed funds for Wales Air Ambulance and Jade Owen of Bridgend.

Wales Air Ambulance needs no explanation for the wonderful job it does. Jade's wish is to walk – she was born with diplegic cerebral palsy and she is confined to a wheelchair, suffering chronic daily pain and needs help with simple tasks like washing and eating.

She needs complex surgery that the NHS can't provide, so is raising funds to go to St Louis Children's Hospital in Missouri. She has just returned from one operation, but will have to endure more.

The 91 anglers, including four juniors, turned out in terrible conditions and battled the wind and rain to raise £1,620 from entry fees and a raffle.

The junior winner was Shauna Machon from Neath who caught a bass weighing 0.8 kilos and won a selection of fishing tackle, including a rod and reel.

First was builder Joe Arch, from Cardiff, with 7.38 kilos consisting of a smooth hound, bass and spotted ray. He was fishing at Stout Point.

Second was Chris Equall, from Cardiff, with 6.77 kilos consisting of two congers, a smooth hound, dogfish and rockling. He was fishing to the right of Stout Point.

Third was Roy Tapper from Marshfield, with 6.26 kilos consisting of three bass; Roy was fishing at Boverton.

Fourth was veteran angler Don Cook from Barry, with 4.68 kilos consisting of a bass and a conger.

Huge thanks go to everyone who supported the event (too many to mention!), but especially to our main sponsors, Maria Hughes of Llantwit Beach Cafe, for donating the first prize of £300; Mark and Kelly Quarini of Q-Fished Llandow, for donating £200 as a second prize; Dave and Simon of First For Fishing in Taff's Well, for donating the third prize of £100; Chris Davies Estate & Letting Agents for donating the fourth prize of £50; and Brian Davies of Country Stores, Gowerton for donating the junior prizes.

The prize table and raffle prizes were all donated by local businesses, anglers and friends and families. Thanks, of course also to the main organiser, Mr Mark Cowell, who always gets forgotten!

The event will return again next year, when, hopefully the weather will be better!

SALLY OWEN

Roy Tapper, third prize winner.

Joe Arch, the winner.

Chris Equall, with Mark.

Don Cook receives his prize.

VALE OF GLAMORGAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE NEWS ROUND-UP

Another weekend of pulsating action in the Vale of Glamorgan Football League saw Vale United remain the only Premier Division team with a 100 per cent record as they defeated last seasons runners up St Athan 4-2.

Cowbridge Town bounced back from an opening day defeat with a 4-1 win over Masons Moving Group. Barry Athletic signalled their intent with 4-2 home win over Dinas Powys Athletic.

Penarth Town got their season up and running with an impressive 3-1 victory over Rhoose and Island Marine and Tynewydd played out a rare 0-0 draw.

In the First Division it was goals aplenty between Barry Athletic B and Cadoxton Athletic as the former won an incredible 9-4 in their first fixture following promotion.

Barry Belgrade made it two out of two with a 6-2 romp against Cadoxton Barry, while Cardiff Airport also ran in six in a 6-1 win against Glenbrook. SP Billy continued their good start as they edged out FC Pumas 3-2.

Meanwhile in Division Two, Barry Saints and Cadoxton Imps continue to be the pace setters as both made it three out of three. Cadoxton Imps winning 5-1 against FC Pumas B while Barry Saints brought BVFC's good start to the season to a screeching halt dismantling them 8-1.

Barry Albion bounced back from a mid week defeat to be victorious over Penarth Town B 4-2. While St Athan B are still looking for their first points after a 3-0 home defeat to Island Marine B.

This week sees a second division midweek schedule on Wednesday with BVFC vs Cadoxton Imps standing out. The weekend sees another round of league action, with Tynewydd hosting Vale United in an intriguing game in the Premier Division and St Athan playing Cowbridge Town in another west Vale derby.

In the First Division, the stand-out game has to be Barry Belgrade vs SP Billy and in the Second Division Barry Albion vs Barry Saints could well be game of the day.

HD

Lightning strikes at chess club

THE final event in the Barry Chess Club summer programme took place with a lightning tournament.

Because of holidays, there were only eight participants including Jake Hurley, an interloper from the Cardiff Chess Club.

A good tournament took place with the help of Rhys Steele who wrote a computer programme to produce a buzzer when the players must make a move. Failure to make a move at the right time and your game is forfeit.

There were seven rounds of play so everyone played each other. As expected from the ratings of the players involved Rhys won all seven of his games to win the tournament.

Jake Hurley took second place on five points with a resurgent Dave Mahoney and Sam Jukes just a half point behind.

On this occasion everyone recorded at least one victory and there was only one drawn match between Sam and Dave – had Dave managed to win that match second place would have been his.

The Barry Chess Club meets at 7.30pm each Monday at the West End Club. St Nicholas Road, Barry, CF62 6QY. The club is open to players of all standards; whether you are interested in playing competitive chess or just the occasional friendly games.

New players are very welcome to just turn up on the night but if you contact one of the club members through the website we can explain what is happening on the night you have in mind, and arrange for someone to greet you on your arrival.

For more details visit http://barrychessclub.yolasite.com.

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All pictures by JULIE HANCOCK

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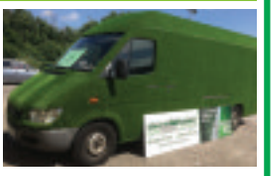

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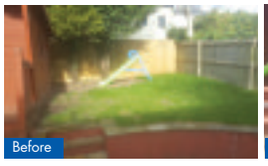

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CEFN Cribwr FC entertained Rhondda Valley side Penrhiwfer on a historical day where hundreds of Ground Hoppers visited Cae Gof.

The Ground Hoppers are a group of football fanatics who travel the length and breadth of the country visiting non league grounds and collecting memorabilia along the way.

The August bank holiday weather held its own and the sun was shining. Penrhiwfer started brightly and showed they could rise to the occasion, causing some problems for the home team's defence.

Cefn looked to play football and passed with a purpose and wasn't long before they made the travelling keeper work with a save from a Tom Harris shot. Penrhiwfer went ahead with a goal on the stroke of half-time with a goal from Fers striker Kieran Tann.

The second half saw Cefn Cribwr come out of the blocks flying, creating chances from midfield. The pressure told when Tom Harris finished a great team goal to level the scores.

Penrhiwfer seemed to take the initiative from conceding and tightened up at the back, inviting Cefn onto them.

Cribwr's valiant effort was to no avail as Penrhiwfer sealed the win with a goal just before the end of play.

We would like to thank both the Ground Hoppers for visiting us and Mr Orion Bailey of Philip Carter Signs for sponsoring this historic match.

CCBC reserves played against a strong FC Maesteg going down 4-3, while CCBC's development team were on the end of a clinical performance from Caerau Athletic, coming second best!

Thanks to all involved.

GB

Bridgend Bridge Club news

MANY congratulations to Glenda Roberts and Liam Sheridan who won the Green Pointed Swiss Pairs in a very strong field of 76 pairs at the East Wales/West Wales Congress in Newport on August 6, an excellent achievement.

Following the success of this year's lessons, which ended on June 16, Bridgend Bridge Club will be running another course of lessons for beginners, starting on Thursday, September 8.

The lessons are held at Nolton Church Hall in Bridgend, from 11.30am until 1.30pm every Thursday, and are suitable for complete beginners, or for those who have played bridge or whist in the past and want to start playing again and develop their knowledge of the game further.

There is also a play session on Thursday afternoons, which will normally be preceded by a short talk aimed at improvers and intermediate players.

This will start at 1.30pm, with play being from 2pm until 5pm - there is parking available on site.

For further information please contact Steve Burgoyne on 01656 661968, John Evans on 01656 880372 or David Newman on 01656 649138.

RECENT RESULTS

The results for recent events at Bridgend Bridge Club are:

Wednesday, August 24: First, Tony Disley and Steve Burgoyne; second, Graham Norris and Dave Lea; third, Marjorie Morris and Wendy Williams. The winners on handicap were Tony Disley and Steve Burgoyne.

Thursday, August 25: First, Dilys Bowser and Leila O'Hagan; second: Gareth Jenkins and Margaret Roach; third: Geoff and Christine Tinkler. The winners on handicap were Dilys Bowser and Leila O'Hagan.

Friday, August 26: First: Dave Lea and Irene Thomas; second: Tony Howarth and Kevin Maddox; third, Glenda Roberts and Liam Sheridan. The winners on handicap were Dave Lea and Irene Thomas.

Regular club nights take place on Wednesday and Friday evenings at Nolton Church Hall. Play is scheduled to begin at 7pm, so it helps if players arrive at least 10 minutes early.

On Thursday afternoons at 2pm, also at Nolton Church Hall, there is a gentle bridge session. Master points are awarded, but it remains a relaxed occasion where players enjoy their bridge.

TG